

The  
weekend  
Of

June 17  
2017

# Birch Barker

The official summer publication of the  
**Birch Lake Yacht Club**



Thanks to our grandson Dominic Vitale-Richards for the photo of Mister Mallard, a chance acquaintance on a recent Saturday.

## COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

**W**ell it seems to be official – summer is here at Birch Lake (regardless of what the calendar says)!

Claudia and I had a successful kick-off with the Commodore/Vice-Commodore Party on Saturday. It was great to catch up with so many lake friends and enjoy a few hours of camaraderie, delectable food (Birch Lakers can cook!) and libations. I hope everyone enjoyed themselves and if you weren't able to make it, we hope to see you at future events! A huge thanks to Vicki Rogers, Bad Patty Luecht and Christine Marsh for helping with the set-up. Thanks also go out to Sarah Petty (and the boys) for organizing the color-coded name tags ... great idea to help everyone with forgotten names and pinpoint on which shore people reside. Dennis Phipps was the captain of the balloon brigade – successfully wrestling two dozen helium balloons into his vehicle and safely getting them to the Yacht Club. We also want to give a shout

out to the "last callers," who stayed to help clean up and tear down ... your help is much appreciated and we're grateful there's always a crew to help with this chore.

Since I'm on the subject of events at the Yacht Club, don't forget the upcoming Spaghetti Dinner on June 24, when the West Side & Cove residents will be exhibiting their culinary skills from 5:30 to 7:30. Remember – you **MUST** purchase a ticket if you want to enjoy a fabulous spaghetti dinner. Please see the ad in the Barker for details on whom to contact to buy your tickets. Proceeds from the dinner will go to the Water Quality fund.

This is a perfect segue to more serious matters. We need to address the issue of two of our self-funded activities here at the lake: Fireworks and Water Quality.

The fireworks fund is in dire need of contributions. We need \$5,000 to pay for the spectacular fireworks display that our families have been looking forward to. Remember, it's not a "given" that we will have fireworks here at Birch Lake ... we need to pitch in to ensure we have another year of

## 2017 Birch Lake Calendar

- Popsicles on the pier, Petty's pier - June 22
- Spaghetti Dinner - June 24
- Popsicles on the Pier, Kintzlers - June 30
- Fireworks - July 1
- Pancake Breakfast - July 2
- Fireworks rain date - July 2
- Harman/Troeger People's Regatta - July 15
- Ladies Golf Outing - July 20
- Mens Golf Outing July 28
- Corn and Sausage Roast - July 29
- Fall Dinner August 26
- Soup Challenge - October 14

Upcoming Board of Directors Meetings:  
July 8, August 5, Sept. 9

*More info as available.; Dates subject to change; Watch the Online Barker for 2017 schedule when available and for updates!*

4th of July enjoyment.

The Water Quality fund could also use some help, as the balance tapped out this month. While we have BLYC membership dues/contributions continuing to come in and we have the Spaghetti Dinner profits being donated, please think about making a dona-

# — Birch Lake Notes —

tion to help keep our lake pristine.

I hope you're enjoying the hot days (and nights) we've been having. They've definitely helped get us into the summertime mood! A lot of people are out and about and enjoying the lake - we need to remember how fortunate we are for this wonderful place we call home.

*-Vice Commodore Karen*

## ATTENTION LADY GOLFERS

Due to a scheduling error the ladies golf outing date has changed! The even will take place on Thursday, July 20. Tee off time is 9 am.

## Boat Parade Planned

This summer is passing way too fast and it's not even summer yet. Only two weeks remain until the Boat Parade on Saturday, July 1, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. We hope that the "Parade About Everything" idea has stimulated your thinking in ways never seen before here at Birch Lake. We can feel the buzz.

Our friendly lake neighbor, Mr. Dick Bender, is again allowing us to use his South Side pier as the staging and judging point for the parade. All entries will receive a trophy and one boat will be designated "Most Outstanding."



*Thanks to our Artist in Residence Duffy Dufor for the great Birch Lake art.*

The Parade's Grand Marshal has been chosen, but their identities must remain secret until the day of the Parade. In last week's Barker we questioned the Boat Parade's origin. We did learn that Claudia Phipps was instrumental in resurrecting the event in 1987. We still are looking for the original start date.

## New Directory in the works

The Birch Lake Yacht Club is in the process of collecting data for a new Birch Lake Directory, which will be published this year. We will be collecting data through July 4 and hopefully will have directories available for the Fall Dinner.

If you are new to the lake or if any

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# — Birch Lake Notes —

of your information in the last directory has changed, please your new information to Deb Spratt at 18100 Farmington Hills Dr., South Bend, IN 46637

The information we will publish will include:

House number - last name, first name(s)

Birch Lake mailing address

Lake Phone Number (land line)

Cell Phone Number(s)

Off Lake Address (if any)

Off Lake Phone Number(s)

Email address(es)

Kids names.

## Birch Lake Totes

Birch Lake Totes are again available for just \$5 each. Call Patty 476-2615. They will be on sale at the Commodore/Vice Commodore party on Saturday June 10.

## High speed Internet project

Birch Lake is part of the Jones zone for the high-speed Internet construction project by Midwest Energy. This zone is currently in 5th place, at 35 percent of its goal. Midwest Energy is looking for approximately 451 more sign ups before they will begin construction in our area for 2018.

The more sign ups they receive in

our zone the more quickly construction will begin. Spread the word! Advise friends and family to sign up on [team-fiber.com](http://team-fiber.com). Signing up there does not commit you to anything it just shows that there is interest in the fiber service.

## The Birch Barker

As it has been in previous years, the deadline for submitting materials for any given Birch Barker is 3 pm on the Tuesday prior to publication.

The printed Birch Barker is online again this season ... to see any week, go to [www.philvitale.com](http://www.philvitale.com) and follow the links to the "Latest Printed Birch Barker."

Advertising is always welcome in the Birch Barker. All money paid goes to support Birch Lake Yacht Club events and activities, and all the people who helps produce and distribute the Barker are unpaid volunteers.

Display style ads are produced and printed as "modular" ads in the following increments:

1/8 page - \$65;

1/4 page - \$130;

1/2 page - \$260;

full page - \$560

The cost for the ad is for the entire season (not per week).

Classified advertising in the

Barker is free for BLYC members or \$5/week for non members.

To order an ad, contact Barker Editor Phil Vitale at [onlinebarker@gmail.com](mailto:onlinebarker@gmail.com) or [sailorphil@philvitale.com](mailto:sailorphil@philvitale.com), mail or put the ad materials in the stone mailbox at 63174 Birch Rd. (east side), Vandalia, MI 49095, or, as a last resort, call me at 269-476-1680.

## Sailing news: DO OVER

After three years of pre-gattas (America's Cup World Series) spanning the globe, and a grueling Challenger Selection Series, the Challenger of Record is now known for the 35th America's Cup Match presented by Louis Vuitton.

In the end, Emirates Team New Zealand bested the rest and will, as in 2013, race Defender Oracle Team USA for the Auld Mug on Great Sound, Bermuda.

Racing begins this weekend, sailing twice daily on Saturday and Sunday. After the first four races this weekend, the teams stand down until the following weekend, then race twice daily until one claims the Cup.

It's a "best of 13" series where the first to win seven races is the victor.

In the USA, watch the racing live on the NBC main channel. Let's Regatta!



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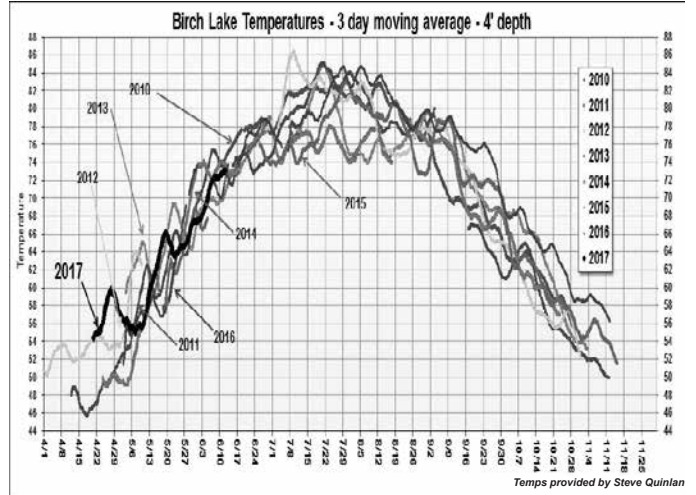
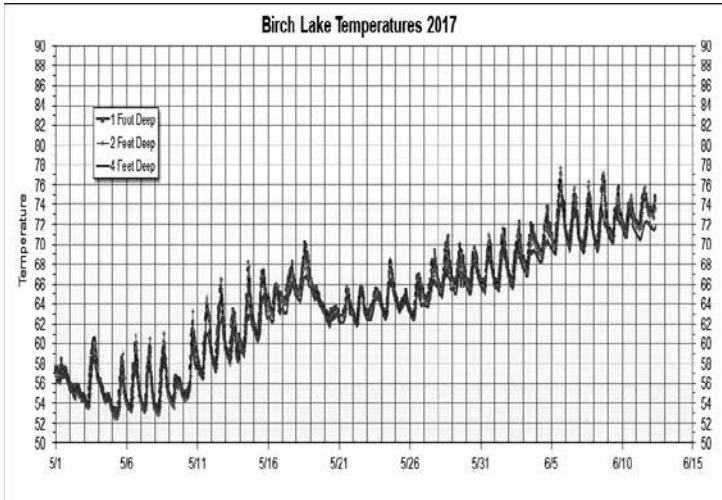
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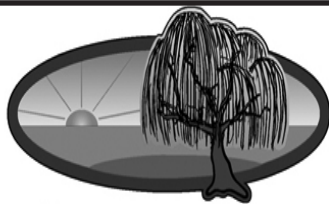
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### Elizabeth Carey and Steve Decker -- Sold our home on Indiana Lake

"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!"

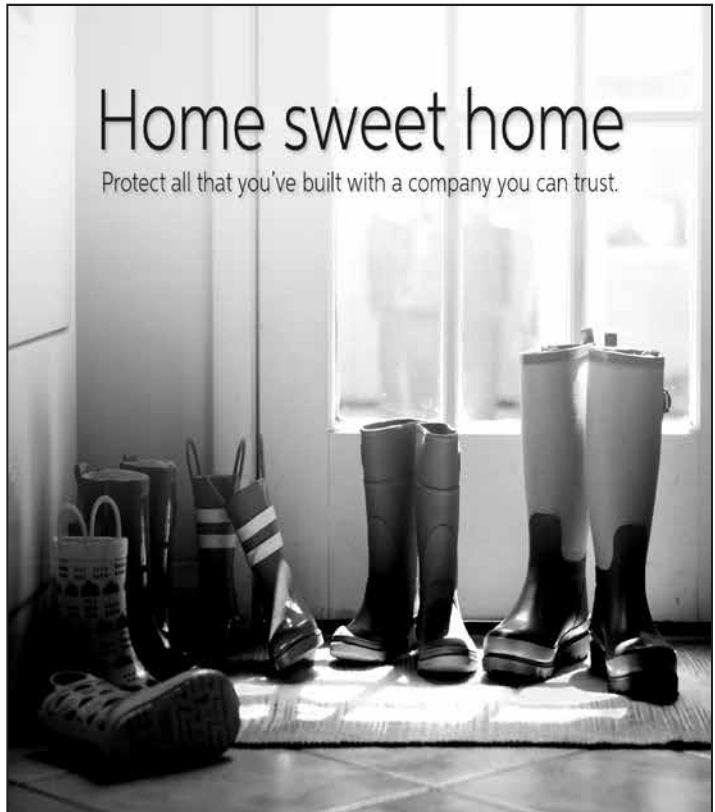
### Tom Davidson -- Top qualities: Personable, Expert, High Integrity

"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

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# — COMMUNITY CORNER —

by **Sarah Petty**

Hello! What a fun time at the Commodore/vice commodore party last weekend! Thank you for being good sports about the name tags, the feedback was very positive!

Remember last week when I told you to save the date for 6/22 "Popsicles on the Pier"? Here is the scoop. I will host the first one, 14819 North Shore. It is from 4-6 on my pier. I will provide popsicles and you are welcome to byob anything else. Here are the ground

rules: this isn't a house walk, please don't plan to go inside the homes that participate (unless of course you have an emergency). We all have parking issues both with cars and motor boats, so walking, kayaking etc is encouraged. I prefer not to have 4 legged creatures at the events as not everyone is a fan, They have their own party later in the summer. This is as simple as it sounds, come down, bring the family and have some popsicles! We will have some yard games for the kids, and hope to meet

new neighbors. This is an all lake event, all are welcome!

Thank you to Keith Kinzler (west) who will host the second "Popsicles on the Pier". Save the date for 6/30, this event will "teen focused" and replace the teen party! All are welcome at the beginning and we will have the teens stay later!

Please enjoy meeting two more of your BLYC members; Chas Grundy and Scott Troeger (see below).

## Get to know the Birch Lake Yacht Club board

I am **Scott Troeger**, have been serving on the BLYC and Homeowners' Association boards for quite a while now (perhaps we need term limits?), and was Commodore in 1997.



My grandparents (Earl, Sr. and Esther) built a log cabin on the south side of the lake shortly after WWII. Eventually my parents (Jack and Janet) and both sets of uncles and aunts (Earl, Jr. and Connie; Tom and Pat) each acquired places on the lake, where I and my

cousins and extended families enjoyed our summers.

With those great childhood memories it was probably inevitable that I would have to have a cottage on Birch Lake too. Accordingly, in due course Holly and I bought our place near

the landing from the Lovejoys in 1993, where our now-adult children Amy (30), Tory (26) and Neil (22) have grown up as fourth generation Birch Lakers.

I am one of the MC sailors who races on Sundays (weather permitting), and occasionally I still manage to slalom ski around the lake.

I'm **Chas Grundy**, and I live on the East Shore with my wife Amber and our kids Avery (7), Elyse (5), and Kieran (0.4).



I work at the University of Notre Dame, and Amber is the camp director for Camp Tannadoonah.

This summer marks our tenth year living year-round at Birch Lake!

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# It's duck itch season

**S**wimmer's itch, also known as lake itch, duck itch, cercarial dermatitis, and Schistosome cercarial dermatitis, is a short-term, immune reaction occurring in the skin of humans that have been infected by water-borne schistosomatidae. Symptoms, which include itchy, raised papules, commonly occur within hours of infection and do not generally last more than a week.

A number of different flatworm parasites in the family Schistosomatidae are what cause swimmer's itch. These parasites use both freshwater snails and vertebrates as hosts in their parasitic life cycles. Mostly waterfowl are used as the vertebrate host. During one of their life stages, the larvae of the parasite, cercaria, leave the water snails and swim freely in the freshwater, attempting to encounter water birds. These larvae can accidentally come into contact with the skin of a swimmer. The cercaria penetrates the skin and dies in the skin immediately. The cercaria larvae cannot infect humans, but they cause an inflammatory immune reaction. This reaction causes initially mildly itchy spots on the skin. Within hours, these spots become raised papules which are intensely itchy. Each papule corresponds to the penetration site of a single para-

site.

The schistosomatidae that give rise to swimmer's itch should not be confused with those of the genus *Schistosoma*, which infect humans and cause the serious human disease schistosomiasis, or with larval stages of thimble jellyfish (*Linuche unguiculata*), which give rise to seabather's eruption. Seabather's eruption mostly occurs in salt water, on skin covered by clothing or hair, whereas swimmer's itch mostly occurs in freshwater, on uncovered skin.

Since it was first described in Michigan in 1928, swimmer's itch has been reported from around the world. Some suggest incidence may be on the rise, although this may also be attributed to better monitoring.

Children may become infected more frequently and more intensely than adults but this probably reflects their tendency to swim for longer periods inshore, where cercariae also concentrate.

To prevent it, don't stand around in shallow, warm lake water. Staying out in somewhat deeper water and/or keeping moving such as when swimming, will usually prevent the parasites from getting you. When you or the kids get out of the water, towel off immediately



with a strong rubbing motion and then shower with soap and hot water.

Swimmer's itch typically clears up on its own within a few days, though in some cases the rash can last up to a week. In the meantime, you can control itching with over-the-counter antihistamines or anti-itch creams, such as those that contain calamine lotion. If the itching is severe, your doctor may recommend a prescription medication.

Orally administered hydroxyzine, an antihistamine, is sometimes prescribed to treat swimmer's itch and similar dermal allergic reactions.

## SLOW DOWN

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

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

**SPEED LIMIT**

**15<sub>MPH</sub>**





# FLEET CAPTAIN'S CORNER

## Sometimes you eat the bear ...

Well, sometimes you eat the bear and sometimes the bear eats you. After agonizing about the weather forecast last weekend following the big blow on Saturday (the Sunday forecast right up to race time was for 15-30 mph winds) and talking to half a dozen sailors, in the interest of safety, I called off the race.

Well, that didn't sit too well with some of the sailors who let me know (in spades) that they weren't happy with the decision.

I have a few things to say:

1. I am responsible for not only keeping the fleet going but watching out for everyone's safety. If you feel you can do a better job, STEP UP - OR SHUT UP. I'm sick of Monday morning quarterbacking (or in this case Sunday afternoon quarterbacking) carping. If you know how to do this better, put your

name in the hat or get off my case! I'm not a soothsayer, just a neighbor trying to do what I think is right.

2. For crying out loud quit beating up on Bad Patty! She's just the messenger. She doesn't have a hand in the decision, and your complaints to her are completely unjustified, unwarranted and just plain wrong. Get off her case!

3. Hey, this ain't life and death, rocket science, or in any way going to affect anyone's income or well being. This is supposed to be fun ... and some people seem to have forgotten that. Hey, it's a couple hours on Sunday morning ... no matter what happens -- or doesn't - don't let it ruin your (or anyone else's) weekend!

4. If you want to whine, please lose my phone number.

Weather permitting we'll try again this Sunday. If we race, and if you come



out, please come with a good, sportsmanlike attitude.

Until Next week,  
"Splice the main brace."

~Fleet Captain Mike~

## 2017 BLYC Season Sailing Results

Date ..... June 4 ..... June 4 ..... June 4 ..... Total ..... Season ..... Races ..... %  
Race ..... 1 ..... 2 ..... 3 ..... Points ..... Average .... Finished ..Finished

### MC Scow Sailor/boat number

Scott Troeger #1489	1	1	2	4721	1574	3	100.0%
Jeff Smitley #2002	2	3	1	4565	1522	3	100.0%
Phil Vitale #500	4	2	5	4186	1395	3	100.0%
Barb Cassidy #2506	3	5	3	4184	1395	3	100.0%
Harold Cranmer #1991/2550	5	4	4	4034	1345	3	100.0%
Bill Luecht #1579	6	6	7	3606	1202	3	100.0%
Pat McGann #1735	7	7	6	3537	1179	3	100.0%
Bob King #1199	DNS	DNS	DNS	0		0	0.0%
Gib Eberhart #916	DNS	DNS	DNS	0		0	0.0%
Sandy Vitale	DNS	DNS	DNS	0		0	0.0%

### Sunfish Sailor/sail color

Peter Soldato	1	1	1	4800	1600	3	100.0%
Rick Russwurm (Green/Blue)	2	3	2	4486	1495	3	100.0%
Herb Cleveland	3	2	4	4334	1445	3	100.0%
Mike Lutz (Blue/Red/Yellow)	5	4	3	4109	1370	3	100.0%
Stewart Spratt	4	5	5	3961	1320	3	100.0%
Camille Butler	DNS	6	6	2450	1225	2	66.7%
Bill Butler	DNS	DNS	DNS	0		0	0.0%

### Abbreviations explained:

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.



# — Barker Kids of the Week —



*Aurora Jade Trudell, also known as Aurorable, gets Barker KOTW honors this week for sporting the cool Ray Bans and the bad hat. Aurora is the granddaughter of Amy and Mike Lutz (north shore).*

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# — Barker Kids of the Week —



*Peyton, Katherine and Emily fishing on the cove. They are the grandkids of Tom and Vicky Rogers (Cove).*

## KID-OF-THE-WEEK PHOTOS

*Mail your kid-of-the-week (or turtle of the week or plant of the week or whatever you've got) photos to Birch Barker, 63174 Birch Rd., Vandalia, MI 49095; put them in a ziplock and stick them in the stone mailbox at my home (east side), or email them to me at [SAILORPHIL@PHILVITALE.COM](mailto:SAILORPHIL@PHILVITALE.COM)*

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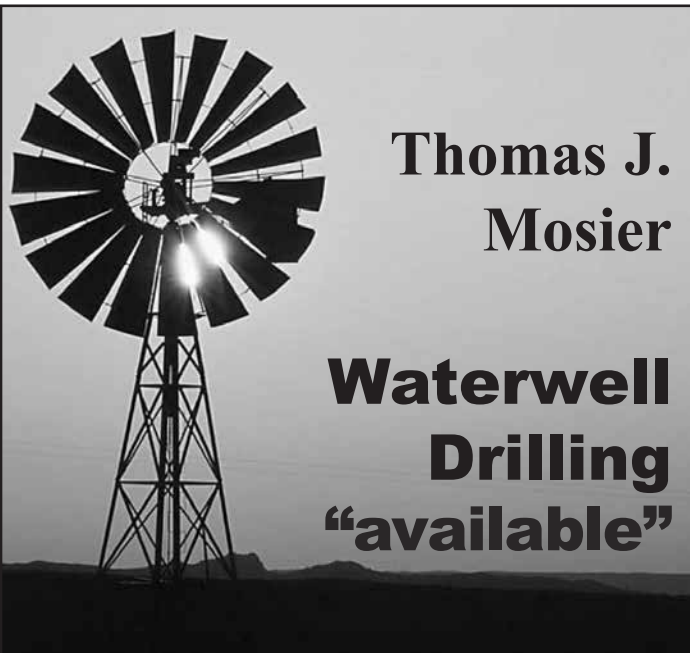
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# — Barker Kids of the Week —



*Dominic Vitale-Richards, age 10, gets Barker KOTW honors this week with a selfie he shot with PopPop's camera at the train museum in Elkhart. Dominic enjoyed the visit and shot a bunch of photos at the museum, which his grandfather turned into a "field trip" picture story for the local newspaper Neighbors (watch for it in the mail at the end of June). Nice job Dom!*



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## **SAVE THE DATE; Birch Lake Ladies' FUN Golf Outing**

**Friday, July 20; \$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!  
More details to come later!**

**Lunch following at the BLYC  
(included in cost)**

**Deadline to sign up is July 16  
Get Your Teams Together!**

**Team Members**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

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

# — Water Quality Report —

## Eurasian Milfoil

**E**urasian Milfoil is an aggressive tall growing exotic aquatic plant from Europe and Asia. It can grow to the surface in up to 10 to 15 feet of water. At the surface, it forms a dense canopy of vegetation over other plants. Many native plants may be reduced in abundance by Milfoil canopy. It also conflicts with many recreational activities. In dense conditions, it is a serious localized and lake wide problem. It is not a significant food crop for waterfowl, other birds or aquatic mammals. It readily regenerates from detached fragments and spreads rapidly. Consequently, this plant can form dense colonies covering much of a lake's shore line out to a depth

of about 20 feet.

We began monitoring aquatic vegetation in Birch Lake in 2001. We were part of a Michigan Lake & Stream program that mapped the aquatic plants in Birch Lake. Howard Wandell provided professional assistance to the Birch Lake Water Quality Committee. The mapping project revealed that Birch Lake had a moderate plant population consisting of a good variety of species none of which dominated. At the time, the survey determined that we did not have Eurasian Milfoil.

In 2007 Eurasian Milfoil was discovered at three sites. Progressive AE provided professional assistance and is still under contract.

For 2017

Progressive AE surveyed the entire lake for all types of invasive species in mid-May. Their survey turned up a total of 1 acre of Eurasian Milfoil at one site on the east shore. Professional Lake Management has already treated



the site (on Tuesday June 6, 2017) Progressive AE will do a second survey.

The annual program is important to keep the Milfoil under control and to detect any other invasive species in the early stages to enable us to better control it. With your continued support, we can maintain this vital program. Our Water Quality fund is becoming dangerously low. Your continued financial support is greatly appreciated.



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# STU'S STAR STUFF



## Summer begins Wednesday

**F**or kids, summer began when school ended. But technically, summer begins on Wednesday next week. Tuesday if you go by Chicago time or parts farther west of the lake.

Days get longer in the summer and shorter in the winter, right? No. Quite the opposite. Wednesday, June 21 marks the summer solstice - the longest day of the year in terms of daylight hours here at the lake. Being the longest day, logic would only have it that each day following would be shorter than the last.

We've had the discussion before regarding the longest day vs. the earliest sunrise vs. the latest sunset. They don't all coincide, but all are a result of our earth's annual journey around the sun.

The summer solstice in the Northern Hemisphere ranges in date from June 20 to 22. This occurs in part because of the difference between the Gregorian calendar system, which normally has 365 days, and the tropical year (how long it takes Earth to orbit the Sun once), which has about 365.242199 days. To compensate for the missing fraction of days, the Gregorian calendar adds a leap day about every 4 years, which makes the date for summer jump backward. However,

the date also changes because of other influences, such as the gravitational pull from the Moon and planets, as well as the slight wobble in Earth's rotation.

So why wouldn't the summer solstice, the longest day of the year, also be the hottest day of the year? Earth's atmosphere, land, and oceans absorb part of the incoming energy from the Sun and store it, releasing it back as heat at various rates. Water is slower to heat (or cool) than air or land. At the summer solstice, the Northern Hemisphere receives the most energy (highest intensity) from the Sun due to the angle of sunlight and day length. However, the land and oceans are still relatively cool, due to spring's temperatures, so the maximum heating effect on air temperature is not felt just yet. Eventually, the land and, especially, oceans will release stored heat from the summer solstice back into the atmosphere. This usually results in the year's hottest temperatures appearing in late July, August, or later, depending on latitude and other factors. This effect is called seasonal temperature lag.

While summer is just beginning here at the lake half the world is just now going into winter. Again this all has to do with how the sun's rays

### The Moon for this Saturday

(At Midnight, US Central time, as viewed from the Northern Hemisphere)  
Illuminated Fraction: 0.408  
0.8 days after last quarter



**Sunrise: 06:10:00 AM**  
**Sunset: 21:19:14 PM**  
**Moonrise: 01:59:51 AM**  
**MoonSet: 13:54:50 PM**  
Daylight: 15 Hr 09 Min 05 Sec

strike the earth. But what about other planets? Do they have seasons? Well, some do, some don't. Mercury for example has virtually no tilt whatsoever, relative to its plane of orbit, so there are really no seasons. Uranus on the other hand is tilted by almost 98 degrees from its plane of orbit and has seasons that last nearly 21 years. Twenty one years of summer. I could live with that. But 21 years of winter? No, thanks.

Next week - Science and what the evidence shows.

**~Stu Spratt**

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Ads are \$5 per ad for non-members  
(please pay in advance).

To submit an ad, email it to  
Sailorphil@philvitale

# YOUR HOROSCOPE

**Aries (March 21-April 19)** - Whether you know it or not, whatever you do in the next few years will be predicated on what you do this year. If you get further studies or coursework or training; or you travel and become more polished and experienced - these things will make you a different person by next year.

**Taurus (April 20-May 20)** - Ever since 2012, relationships have been demanding and the support that you used to rely on - the finances, the income and the assistance from other sources (primarily your partner) have been reduced or even cut off. This has thrown you completely on your own resources. You're going to learn to stand on your own feet so that you know how to prepare for your time of harvest that will arrive in 2020.

**Gemini (May 21-June 20)** - You have been going through a difficult relationship since 2015. However, most relationships will stay together but there will be a lot of yelling and screaming. Once you have survived this, you will have learned a lot and your relationship will deepen.

**Cancer (June 21-July 22)** - In the last two years, life has been hard. You are busting your buns. At times, you have felt that you actually are so overwhelmed and you just can't do it all. But so far, you have done it, haven't you? And you're almost at the end of this slog, which has really been to test your effectiveness as a human being. Because after this, you are going to make your debut into the big world. You will be center stage and will get applause and acknowledgment for all your hard work.

**Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)** - There's good news and there's bad news. The bad news is that Saturn has introduced increased responsibilities with children into your life. The good news is that Saturn is now in your fellow Fire sign. This means its strength, focus and tenacity are supporting you.

**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** - You are high viz. now and want to travel for pleasure. Physical competition with a friend or a group might be taking place as well. You might have increased responsibilities at home, especially with a parent. But you also have to face home repairs and figure out how to secure your home. At the very least, you will want to improve and repair where you live so that you feel you have a safe refuge you can rely on. Fortunately, increased earnings will help you do this this year.

**Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)** - This has been a fortunate year for you. Many of you have more free time. You also have more opportunities to enjoy travel and the company of dear friends. Nevertheless, Whatever happens, fear not because lucky Jupiter is sure to boost your assets, your cash flow and in most cases, your earnings.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** - Since 2010, you have given up a lot. Relationships, possessions, jobs and homes have gone by the wayside for many of you because it was a time to let go of what was no longer relevant in your life. It's been tough to increase your earnings. In fact, it's even bit tough to maintain your earnings! However, you will benefit from the intentions of Saturn now, which are to teach you or perhaps reveal what your values are.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** - Basically, it's grow up time. Don't worry too much if your bones and joints are creaky and you feel old. You might even feel a bit lonely and cut off from others. Fortunately, your ruler Jupiter nicely offsets some of this sober influence and attracts friends and groups into your life. You're popular!

**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** - You are in a particular phase of your life that is making you give up a lot of dead weight. You are saying goodbye to people and possessions. Relationships, homes, friendships, jobs - many of these things are slipping away because you are either making this choice or it is being thrust upon you. Do not see this as a time of loss. It's a time of lightening up to prepare for a new future!

**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** - Stand up for yourself. Don't let others walk all over you. You have enjoyed success and accomplishment in the last five years. It's appropriate to deliver what others want but it's also appropriate to respect your own self interests.

**Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)** - This is your time of harvest! The seeds that you have planted in the last five years are coming to fruition. Where you planted well - you will be rewarded. Where you planted poorly - you face failure. Don't dwell on this - move on! This is a powerful time for you when you are getting the recognition and acknowledgment you deserve! Yay you!

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amazon.

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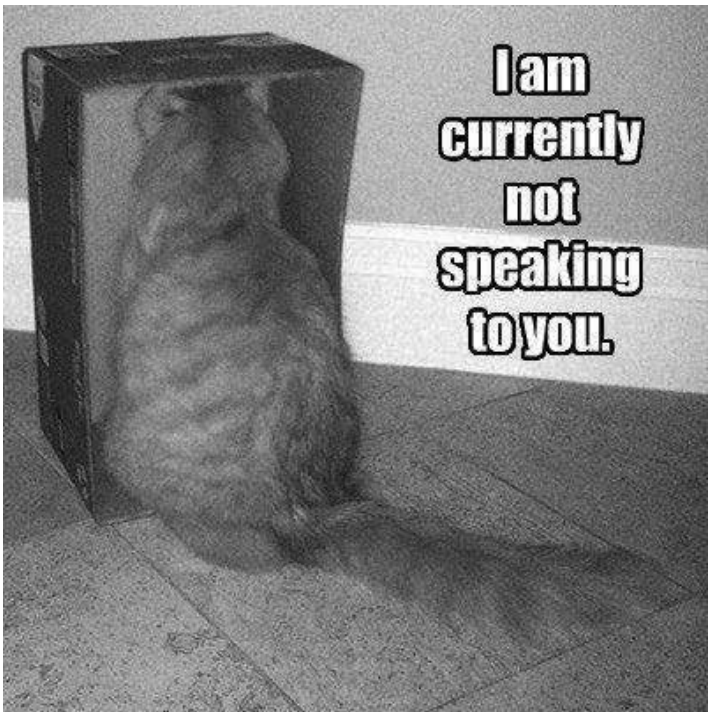


DON'T SIT ON THE KEYBOARD?



OK

I am  
currently  
not  
speaking  
to you.







# ~Birch Lake Recipes~



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

## Ranch BLT roll ups

Ranch BLT Roll Ups are a hit at every party! Bacon, lettuce and tomato are even better with ranch dressing and cream cheese! These are perfect for game day!

Prep time: 5 mins  
Total time: 5 mins  
Serves: 8-10

### INGREDIENTS

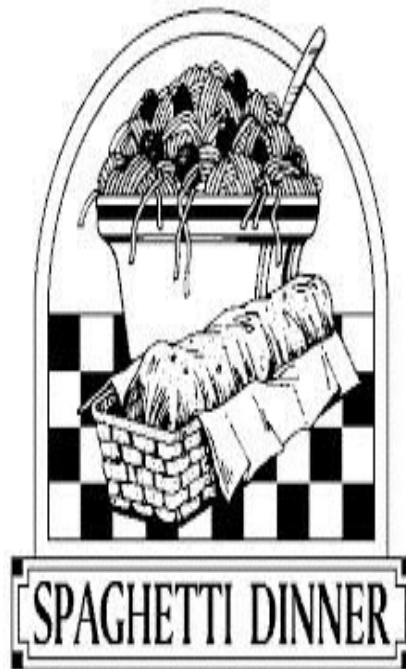
- 12 oz. cream cheese, softened
- 1 oz. dry ranch mix
- 14.5 oz. Hunt's Diced Tomatoes
- 1 lb thick cut bacon, cooked and crumbled
- 6-8 wraps or large tortillas
- 1/2 cup shredded lettuce

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. whisk together cream cheese, ranch mix, Hunt's Diced Tomatoes and bacon
2. lay 1 wrap out on cutting board and spread cream cheese mixture in an even layer on wrap, be sure to go all the way to edges
3. sprinkle with some of the lettuce
4. roll wrap up like a cigar and lay on a plate, seam side down
5. repeat with remaining wraps
6. place in fridge for at least 1 hour
7. cut off edges and set aside
8. cut 1 inch slices and lay on serving dish



## BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB



Sponsored by the West Shore and the Cove

**Saturday, June 24**

**5:30 - 7:30 PM**

Enjoy a great evening with friends and support the Yacht Club's Water Quality efforts, too!  
Dinner includes spaghetti with two sauces, salad, dessert, and ice tea or lemonade. Take outs are also available.

**Tickets must be purchased in advance**

Contact Vickie Rogers/Cove; Patti Russwurm/North Shore; Linda Curtis and Carla Chester/East Shore; Katha and Mike Machalleck and Sue Williams/South Shore; Mardy Miller and Cam Butler/West Shore

Children 3 and under: Free    Ages 4-10: \$5.00    Ages 11-Adult: \$8.00

# — Camp Tannadoonah —

This week, we will introduce you to the cabin counselors of the Bird Yard Unit. The cabins in the Bird Yard are Robins & Woodpeckers (boys) and Cardinals & Wrens (girls). They are the summer home to our youngest campers, usually ranging from age 5-10. The counselors for the Bird Yard are:

Mr. Marcus (Unit Leader - Derby, England): Hi guys, I'm Mr. Marcus. Last year working at Camp Tannadoonah was one of the best experiences of my life, which is why I've decided to come back again this year. This year I will be the Unit Leader for the Bird Yard. Working with children has always been a passion of mine and I can't wait to see the campers who were there last year to see how much they've grown and I can't wait to make more fantastic camp memories.

Mr. Alec (Mishawaka, IN): Hello all! My name is Mr. Alec and this will be my 3rd year as a counselor and my 8th year in a row attending Camp T. I am going into my sophomore year at Valparaiso University and majoring in Digital Media. I love listening to music and love making people laugh. I can't wait to see old faces and meet new ones!

Mr. Alex (Gradignan, France): Hi everyone! My name is Mr. Alexandre. I am from France and I live and study in Toulon (South of France). I'm studying Business Engineering at KEDGE Business School. My dream is to become a commercial pilot and of course, I am passionate about civil airplanes and travels. I love playing badminton and I also like to teach kids. I feel so excited to spend my summer at Camp Tannadoonah to help and play with kids, share my experience and learn from other people's experiences.

Mr. Cameron (South Bend, IN): Hi everyone! My name is Mr. Cameron and I'm from South Bend. This is my first year at Camp Tannadoonah. I enjoy sports like tennis, soccer, and basketball. I'm a big fan of the arts and music. I enjoy working with kids - I have a little brother named Brayden, so I can easily relate with all of the campers. I'm thrilled to be spending my summer at Camp T!

Miss Katy (Naperville, IL): Hi! I'm Miss Katy, and this is my fourth year at camp, but my first



year as a counselor. I'm originally from Naperville, IL, but I'm going to be a Sophomore at the University of Iowa in the fall, where I am currently majoring in Political Science. When I'm not reading textbooks, going to class, or involved in sorority events, I like traveling, photography, reading, writing, hanging with friends, and trying new things! I am especially excited to spend my summer at Camp Tannadoonah, because I wouldn't want to be anywhere else!

Miss Bethany (Linthgow, Scotland): Hi! I'm Miss Bethany, I'm 21 and I flew over from Scotland for the summer. I have two little dogs and love walking them around the loch next to my house. I love to travel and visit new places, I can't wait to be in the states for the summer! I'm looking forward to spending my summer at camp and meeting lots of new people!

Miss Clover (South Bend, IN): Hello Everyone! My name is Miss Clover and this is my first year working at Camp Tannadoonah! I was a camper for three years and a CIT for two. This fall, I will be a freshman in college at Ball State University and will

be studying to become a teacher. I've always loved Camp T, and am extremely excited to join the staff and share a summer full of singing, laughter and memories with everyone I meet!

Miss Rose (West Malling, England): Hi, my name is Miss Rose. I am 20 years old and I am originally from Kent in England. I am currently at the university of Derby studying Event Management in my 2nd year. In my spare time I am part of the university netball team. This year I was the social secretary for the club this year so I was actively involved in putting on events including charity events. I also really enjoy traveling, therefore I'm so excited

to work for a whole summer in America! I have been to 5 out of the 7 continents and wish to explore them all at some point! I'm really excited to be working at camp this summer Tannadoonah and having an amazing summer!!

Miss Carolina (Guadalajara, Mexico): Hi! My name is Miss Carolina, I was born in Guadalajara Jalisco, Mexico. I am currently studying Business Administration. Since a very young age I have been passionate about sports such as swimming, fencing, horse riding, hiking, athletics, etc. I am a positive and solitary person who likes to learn and is always willing to change, and feel different emotions through travel and adventures.

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For Sale: **like new GP 6500 Generac** portable generator. Used 5 hours. Just serviced. \$375. Call Gordon or Michelle at (269)476-1319

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For Sale: **90 ft wood deck pier**, \$200;

**11-1/2 ft aluminum row boat**, \$200. Call 574 220 0407

## SERVICES

I do **sewing and mending** at fair prices - zippers, hemming, small alterations; call Kathy at 476-9317

If you need **odd jobs** done like pet care, babysitting, garden/yard work, etc... Call Amanda Butler at 574-304-1799

## LOST

Royal Oak sailing on Saturday my **cell phone** slipped from my pocket and into beautiful Birch Lake. It was in a waterproof case and may wash up on the North or East shores. If anyone finds it I would appreciate them notifying me. Mike Kelly 630 941-9138

## FOUND

FOUND: One white "San Marin" **inflatable buoy**, Item Number "NB60," approximately 20" diameter, on 2/17/17. Call 476-1467.

Found near cove: **Child's red and black life vest** decorated with Lightning McQueen from Cars movie. Found on south shore. Appears to be **plastic seat back for kayak**. Please Call Chris Stevens 317-771-8531

FOUND: **Black "Kitchen Aid" grill cover**. Please call Jeff & Denise Smitley at 269.476.9000.

Found: **4-pack of orange life jackets** floated ashore on the east side the weekend of May 14th. Please call Amber at 574-315-0227 if they are yours! They are on the end of our dock.

## WANTED

Wanted: **swim raft**. Please call Machallecks at 476-2642.

The Yacht Club is seeking **new volunteers to plan and oversee the Annual Birch Lake Boat Parade**. The current chairs Sue and Bob Waddle have decided to retire after this summer's parade. They were hoping for someone to volunteer, who has a better understanding of the world we now live in. The Waddles would welcome any new volunteers and invite them to participate in the planning for this year's parade. Please call 269-476-2293. Operators are standing by.

Seeking: **If you have newspapers that you would like to get rid of**, we need them at Camp T! Please call Amber at 574-387-6095 if you have old newspapers, and I will come pick them up.



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 Mike Sheffieck Secretary (W)..... 476-1849  
 mcsheff@aol.com  
 Mike Lutz Fleet Captain (N)..... 476-2843  
 mmtlconcrete@aol.com

## 2015 BLYC Directors

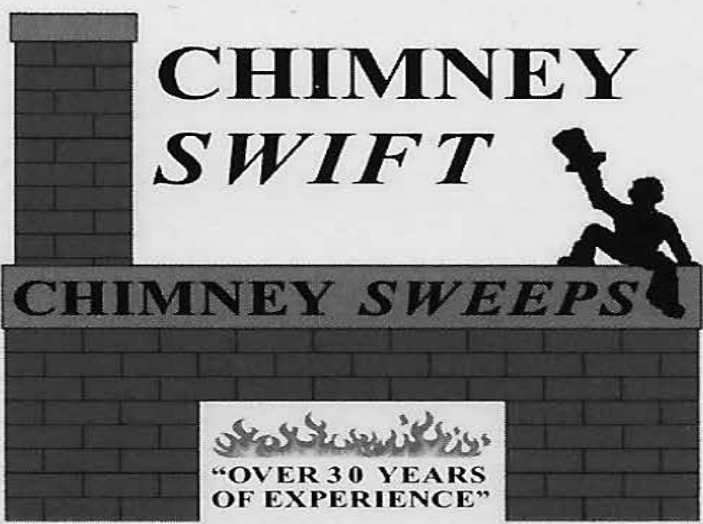
Greg Bolin (W)..... 476-2420  
 gbolin31@aol.com  
 Ed Chester (E)..... 476-1010  
 ed@chesterlawoffice.com  
 Harold Cranmer (W)..... 574-264-6817  
 dhcranmer@yahoo.com

Terry Dugan (S)..... 476-2814  
 s581122@aol.com  
 Celia Fallon (E)..... 476-1467  
 celia.fallon@gmail.com  
 Fred Freihofer..... 476-9823  
 cdfreihofer@aol.com  
 Chas Grundy (H)..... 476-7062  
 Chas.grundy@gmail.com  
 Patty Luecht (E) Past Comm..... 476-2615  
 Pgalloway4@yahoo.com  
 Sarah Petty..... 476-7068  
 sarahkpetty@gmail.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

PJ Vandewalle (E)..... 476-7086  
 pjvandewalle@gmail.com  
 Alan Van Huffel (S)..... 269-244-3487  
 abec3@aol.com  
 Phil Vitale (E)..... 476-1680  
 sailorphil@philvitale.com  
 Sandy Vitale (E)..... 476-1680  
 sv6102@gmail.com  
 Bob Waddle (E)..... 476-2293  
 sparkybob220@comcast.net  
 Past Comm. Sue Williams (S)..... 476-8886  
 smwillia@comcast.net

## BLYC WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE

Paul Fallon, BLYC Water Quality Committee  
 Chairman (E)..... 476-1467  
 paulf@hrpconstruction.com



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--	--

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