



The Weekend Of

July 3, 2020

Birch Barker



The official summer publication of the Birch Lake Yacht Club

HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY



Please enjoy the holiday

SAFELY!

and have a lot of

FUN!

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

The July 4th weekend is here, and I hope many of you have taken days off on either side of the holiday to enjoy more time on Birch Lake. This is an event packed weekend starting out with the Port-a-Pit Chicken & Ribs pick-up on Friday in my driveway at 63590 Birch Road. My cottage will smell like a BBQ smokehouse for the next week. We then have the Boat Parade and fireworks on Saturday and the Camp Tannadoonah pancake breakfast on Sunday. Thank you to all the volunteers who help with these events. We could not do them without you.

In this Barker you will see a recap and some photos of the first Yacht Club event in over 2 years — The Stock the Bar Party. Thank you, Chas, for organizing this.

Speaking of doing something in over 2 years, I just took 4 flights in 3 days, and I now remember how much I hate flying. It is not just the actual flight (I still don't quite understand how a large metal tube with wings can go airborne

and fly at thousands of feet up and hundreds of miles per hour and then safely land), it's the entire experience, starting when you park your car at the airport, and finishing with trying to find your car after returning home. I appreciate that flying is no longer considered something you dress up for, like going out to eat or attending a wedding or Bar Mitzvah, but what some people consider to be attire for flying these days is more

appropriate for sitting out on your pier or throwing on to take your dog out for a pre-dawn walk. There are some people who look good in cut-off shorts and a crop top and a whole bunch of people who do not. And, to wear pajamas in public, unless you are 1-3 years old or were just discharged from a 2-week stint at a stress center, is not appropriate or welcomed.

Growing up with physician parents

2021 Birch Lake Calendar

- July 3 - **FIREWORKS**, dusk
- July 3 - Boat Parade, 4 pm, tba
- July 3, 4 - July 4 Regatta, 11 am
- July 4 - Camp Tannadoonah pancake breakfast, 8:30-11
- July 5 - Regatta rain day (if necessary)
- July 14 - Birch Lake Flotilla for Dennis Phipps' 80th birthday, see page 9
- July 17 - Commodore/Vice Commodore Party, BLYC, details tba
- July 23 - Ladies Golf Outing, 9 am, Diamond Lake Golf Course, tba
- July 24 - BLYC Family Picnic, 5:30-9:30 pm.

- July 24 - Diamond Lake Reid Francis Memorial Interlake MC Regatta, page 5
 - July 30 - BLYC Mens' Golf Outing, Pine View Hemlock, Three Rivers, 1:30 pm
 - August 7 - Corn and Sausage, BLYC, tba
 - August 21 - **NEW DATE** BLYC Fall Dinner, details tba
 - August 27 - Ladies Lunch & Style Show, Woodfire, Dowagiac, 11 am, tba
 - September 6 - Labor Day flotilla, tba
 - Oct. 16 - Crockpot Challenge (tentative)
- BLYC BOARD MEETINGS**
July 10, Aug. 7, all 9 am @ BLYC

For information and open dates to rent the Birch Lake Yacht Club building, contact Sandy Vitale at 269-476-1680 or 269-858-8184.

The Birch Barker will entertain ads and editorial items for potential publication. E-mail to sailorphil@philvitale.com, mail them to me (or put them in the stone mailbox) at 63174 Birch Rd. (East Shore). **DEADLINE** for any issue is Noon on the Tuesday of the week before the publication. Contact Editor Phil at onlinebarker@gmail.com, or at 476-1680 (no text). Contact Commodore Dan Waxman, call 317-506-1680 or email DWaxman@versiti.org.

— Birch Lake Notes —

who had a medical office and would take us six Waxman kids on hospital rounds to spend quality time, taught us early on how to wear a surgical mask. As the pandemic is on the wane, there are still places like airports and airplanes that require you to wear a mask. I have observed the following three ways how to *not* wear the mask and have given them descriptive names so you can better visualize it.

#1. The Chin Bra — wearing the mask to only cover one's chin, just like you see patients wearing this type of bandage after a lower face lift. The only protection this form of mask wearing will give you is to prevent hot soup from dribbling down onto your shirt while eating.

#2. The Snorkel—This is where the mask is covering the mouth and chin, but the nose is starting to peek out. If it is only the tip of the nose, it is a Partial Snorkel. If you see flaring nostrils, then it is Full Snorkel. If this person is sitting next to you on the plane, you are only protected from their breath after they have consumed a spicy bean burrito prior to boarding.

#3. The Sling Shot—This is a brand-new misuse of masks that evolved with the pandemic and is worn by men with

full long beards (think ZZ Top or Duck Dynasty) or large jowls (Jabba the Hut or Pillsbury Doughboy). They do have the mask hooked around their ears and covering their nose and mouth, but the mask does not extend to the chin, thus giving the appearance of a sling shot. This unique appearance is only accentuated when they try to talk to you.

For the foreseeable future, I am going to just take the time and drive to meetings or upcoming weddings. The seats in my car are more comfortable, there is much better beverage and food service and with Scout riding shotgun and Sharon usually reclining in the back, the company is better.

Enjoy the weekend everyone and Until that Time,

~Commodore Dan, and riding along, First Mate Sharon and Scout the Wonder Dog

Holiday thief alert!

It happens every year about this time ... thieves show up at Birch Lake and steal from cars, boats, yards, everywhere that residents aren't paying attention! This year we've already had several "Slow Down" turtle signs stolen from yards, and last weekend a garage was invaded (and some tools were sto-

len), and a pier chair was removed but the thieves dropped it beside a house and didn't steal it. Lock your doors, lock your cars, be vigilant. If you see suspicious or criminal activity call the Cass County Sheriff's Department at 911 (if it is an emergency) or 445-2481 to report. Please don't try to stop them yourself, let the authorities handle it! Be safe.

Ladies Luncheon and Style Show

Time is flying by, and before we know it, it will be time for the "Ladies Luncheon and Style Show!" Be sure to mark Friday, August 27 on your calendar! Six of our Birch Lake Ladies will model clothes from the Marshal Shop in Dowagiac. The luncheon will be next door at the Wood Fire restaurant. Tickets will be \$30 and will include your meal, salad, drink, tax and tip. They will go on sale after the 4th of July.

Weekend guests

It's the BIG Holiday weekend and our guest list is long. Old friends (err, friends we have known for a long time) include Chuck and Karen Horn (Noblesville), Rod and Wendy Miller (Indy), and Ric and Lisa Dwenger (Muncie). Son Cal and DIL Liz arrive Thursday night. Many of their friends



**Thomas J.
Mosier**

**Waterwell
Drilling
"available"**

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**



MOOMBA
SUPRA

Avalon

STARCRAFT
MARINE

APOLLOMARINE.net

**We rent
Pontoon Boats!**

**We service all
area lakes!**

**APOLLO
MARINE**
SALES
SERVICE
STORAGE

**South side
of Gravel Lake**
**15355 96th Avenue
Lawton, MI 49065**
269-423-6011
1-888-996-BOAT

SALES • SERVICE • STORAGE

— Birch Lake Notes —

Birch Lake Yacht Club FIREWORKS FUND WE DID IT!



**Now
we're
working**

to donate
for fireworks
or any other
BLYC function
or activity ...

**on next
year's
fund!**

use the form
in the back of
this week's
**Birch
Barker**

or contribute online at
<http://BirchLakeYachtClub.com/>

will be here this weekend. How many? Be afraid (we are).
Apologies in advance to those deserving.

~Bob and Leslie King

Ladies Golf

Ladies! Get your foursome together for the annual Ladies Golf Outing. The tradition of fun continues on July 23. We welcome everyone to join us. Look for the team sign up sheet with additional details in the Barker after the Fourth of July.

Mind your wake

Due to the high water level after last weekend's torrential rainfall, boaters are asked to keep their wakes to a minimum as the wake will be particularly damaging to shorelines.

Eight bells for Abby Baucus

Our sympathies to the Baucus family on the loss of their beloved dog Abby. She was a sweet companion and we will all miss her.

Be careful

It's the time of year when it should be said often ... Let's Be Careful Out There! If you or your guests plan to operate a jet ski in the counter-clockwise traffic pattern please do so in a safe, boaty manner vs. circus act. Take craziness to the center.
Thanks,
~Anon

MC events planned

The Diamond Lake Reid Francis Memorial Interlake MC Regatta is planned for July 24 (see page 5 for details).

Also, Clear Lake, Iowa will host the 50th MC National Championship regatta on June 24 - 27.

For more information see https://www.mcscow.org/content.aspx?page_id=4002&club_id=612443&item_id=1289415

Weather wand

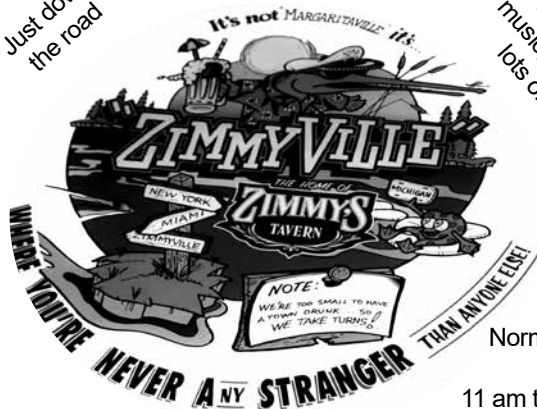
Due to pandemic circumstances possibly Pat forgot to give Dan the weather wand? This is your big weekend Commodore! Rain, if any, should be really late / end really early. Sun for seekers, wind for sailors. That is all (until there's more).

~Chrys A. Lis



Damage on the east side from last Saturday's storm.

Just down
the road



Normally Open
7 days/wk
11 am to Midnight

Carry Outs available
69608 Sunset Blvd

Zimmyville (Union), Michigan

ZIMMY'S TAVERN

(269) 641-5317

<http://www.zimmystavern.com>

Welcome to Jaywalker



Conveniently located close to Birch Lake!

10188 US 12, Mottville

on the beautiful St. Joseph River

(269) 483-2305



FLEET CAPTAIN'S CORNER



**NO
SAILING
DUE TO SEVERE
WEATHER THREAT**



Thanks to Buzz Rasmussen (east side) and former Birch Laker John Gableman for the aerial views of Birch Lake.



Satori

Salon & Spa

269.244.5510

11920 McKinley St.
Jones, Michigan 49061

www.satorisalonandspa.com

Email: satorisalonspa@gmail.com

Offering our Guests...

- All Hair Services w/Natural Products
- Pedicures & Manicures
- Facial & Massage
- Sugaring & Waxing
- Eyelash Extensions & Lifts



Experience the Organic Difference

Understanding. Insightful. Effective.
Local.



TUESLEY • HALL • KONOPA, LLP
attorneys

Estate planning
Elder law
Business counsel
Mediation
Litigation

Cassopolis • South Bend • Elkhart
269.445.1818 | thklaw.com

~BLYC Sailing Results~

BLYC Season Standings to date


Date.....	13-Jun..	13-Jun ..	13-Jun.....	Total	Point	Races	%	
Race.....	4	5	6	Points	Average.....	Finished ...	Finished	
MC Scow/Sailor	Total MC Races=>						6	
Barb Cassady #2506.....	2	1	1	9363	1561	6	100%	
Scott Troeger #1489	1	2	DNS	7546	1509	4	67%	
Bill Luecht #1579.....	3	3	2	8818	1470	6	100%	
Pat McGann #1735.....	5	4	3	8072	1345	5	83%	
Pat Welch #1979.....	4	DNF	4	8003	1334	5	83%	
Amber Grundy.....	6	5	5	3817	1272	3	50%	
Sandy Vitale	7	6	6	7423	1237	6	100%	

Sunfish/Sailor	Total Sunfish Races=>						6	
Peter Soldato.....	DNS	DNS	DNS	4644	1548	3	50%	
Rick Russwurm.....	1	2	1	9132	1522	6	100%	
Scott Temple.....	DNS	1	2	7305	1461	5	83%	
Stewart Spratt.....	4	3	3	8516	1419	6	100%	
Bob Niezgodski	2	5	4	8003	1334	6	100%	
Steve Frew	DNS	DNS	DNS	3780	1260	2	33%	
Herb Cleveland	3	4	5	7514	1252	5	83%	
Camille Butler.....	5	6	6	7084	1181	6	100%	
Jeff Walls	6	7	8	6739	1123	6	100%	

DNF (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

**PRINTING,
MARKETING &
SIGN SERVICES**

CUSTOM SOLUTIONS
& DESIGNS



alphagraphics®
ELKHART & SOUTH BEND

SAVE THE DATE
Reid Francis MC Invitational Regatta
Saturday July 24
Diamond Lake Yacht Club
Sailors invited from:
Birch Lake-Corey Lake-Eagle Lake
Indian Lake—Diamond Lake



ATTENTION RACERS

REGISTER on-line at dlvcmi.org

Race Day

8:00AM Breakfast

9:00AM Skippers Meeting

10:00 First of 3 races

Lunch Included

3:30PM Awards

Spectators Welcome

Watch by boat or shore at DLYC, 21268 Shore Acres Drive, Cassopolis, MI



The House of Walls

Interior Design

- Residential
- Commercial
- E-Design
- Color Palette Selection
- Pre-Sale Staging Consult and Assistance

Tammy Walls, Designer
(574) 527-9306
www.thehouseofwalls.com

SUNDAY IS SAILING DAY
AT BIRCH LAKE,
and
ON SAILING DAYS
races start at 11 am!
PLEASE GIVE 'EM
A BREAK and
STAY CLEAR OF
THE COURSE!

— Water Quality Report —

Commandment #2

It's time to review Commandment # 2, "Thou Shalt Minimize Surface Runoff"

It has often been said that whatever is around a lake eventually gets into that lake. Unfortunately, that is typically true. This is particularly problematic when our lake takes some fifteen years to fully drain and replenish itself. Even worse, many of the most objectionable substances settle to the bottom of, and thusly are not likely to ever leave, our lake.

Whenever planning to develop, modify, improve or even landscape your property, please consider that:

1) The fewer areas hard surfaced (by buildings, sidewalks, pavements, etc.) means less water is likely to runoff into the lake. The greater the distance between the hard surface areas and the lake means less water is likely to runoff into the lake. This is important because this runoff often carries undesirable chemicals and objects into the lake.

2) Before disturbing the earth, you might be required to first obtain a "Soil and Sedimentation Control Permit." Installing

a silt fence between the disturbed area and the shoreline to capture and contain runoff is typically required by these permits.

3) Capturing water and then piping it directly into the lake might only increase its velocity and minimize the chances that suspended solids will settle out before the runoff reaches the lake. Draining the water into dry wells instead of directly to the lake allows the water to be filtered by the soil before it enters the aquifer (and eventually the lake).

4) Although better than hard surfaced areas, lawns don't do much to slow down or filter the runoff. A barrier strip of thick, rooted native plants at and above the shoreline does help to both slow down and filter the runoff. While any width strip is better than none, a 6' wide minimum barrier strip has been suggested as desirable. A barrier strip of 2 - 3' (or more) in height will help keep geese off of your property. (They like to be able to see the lake.)

At all times, even when not contemplating surface changes at your property, please remove and properly dispose of, or protect and carefully store, any objects



that are likely to, whenever washed into our lake, damage our lake. Examples that come to mind are oils, fuels, fertilizers, feces (goose, pet or other), ashes, leaves, trash, grass clippings, etc. Thank you for your help.

PLEASE PASS THE WORD

THE "SIX COMMANDMENTS OF BIRCH LAKE WATER QUALITY"

- | | |
|--|--|
| I. Thou shalt prevent the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) | V. Thou shalt not allow phosphorus, nutrients, and other undesirable chemical elements to enter our lake |
| II. Thou shalt minimize surface runoff | VI. Thou shalt remain informed and active about other Water Quality issues |
| III. Thou shalt minimize the effects of waves | |
| IV. Thou shalt protect and expand Natural Shorelines | |

BIRCH LAKE GOODIES!

Custom made koosies, kitchen towels, hot pads, wine bags, flags, coasters, t-shirts, coffee cups and all-occasion greeting cards. Prices vary depending on time and material costs. Great gifts, home/cottage decor. 10% of all sales go to the Birch Lake Yacht Club!



If you've got an idea for a custom item, I can make it!
Contact Jennifer Ball, Balljkb@aol.com, 574-535-3733

1st Source Bank

1stsource.com | Member FDIC

Straight Talk. Sound Advice.

1st Source Insurance

Insurance products and annuities are not insured by the FDIC; are not deposits or obligations of, or guaranteed by 1st Source Bank; and may involve investment risk, including loss of value. 1st Source Insurance, Inc. is a wholly owned affiliate of 1st Source Bank.

ROSEA Farms

Weekly Local Farm Share
Deliveries Include:

Eggs, Fruits, Vegetables,
Baked Goods and Preserved
Items.

269-816-0754



— Barker Kids of the Week —

Strawberry boy Gavin Andis, grandson of Eric Miller and Karen Curtis Miller, east side, gets Barker KOTW recognition for eating his weight in strawberries.



BARKER KIDS OF THE WEEK

Want your kid to be a Birch Barker Kid of the Week? Want your dog to be a Dog of the Week? Want your lawnmower to be the Lawnmower of the Week? Just mail your photo (with a SASE if you want the photo(s) back) to Birch Barker, 63174 Birch Rd., Vandalia, MI 49095; or put them in a ziplock and stick them in the stone mailbox at my home (on the east side), or email them to me at SAILORPHIL@PHILVITALE.COM

Sale With Susie!

Your Waterfront Specialist



**Waterfront Specialist
Serving Michigan
and Indiana**

SUSIE TUCKER REALTY

574-320-6697 Cell

269-641-5775 Office

www.susietucker.com

Susie@susietucker.com



Zillow



5-STAR AGENT



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.**



— Barker Kids of the Week —



Thanks to Tim Steffen for sending this blast from a Nov. 1, 1992 "pier jerk" at Birch. According to the cutline info he send, pictured are, back row, John Gableman, Doc Green, Tony George, Steve Cranmer, Dewayne Weaver, Brian Machalleck, And Bud; center row Dan Reynolds, Bob Morrison, Brad Zesinger, Bob Waddle, Brad Walker and Rick Doolittle; front row, Terry Curtis, Terry Wiseman, Tim Steffen, Matt Strukel, John Erhardt, Bill Rheinhardt, Steve Ball and John O'Brien, and in front, Coy Jankowski.

The
LAKE LIFE
REALTY GROUP



Get a **FREE** market analysis!
Contact Paul DeLano:
(269-445-8877
Paul@TheLakeLife.com

LISTINGS NEEDED!

NOW IS A GREAT TIME TO LIST YOUR HOME!

Birch Lake homes are
SELLING!

CALL
PAUL DELANO
TODAY

269-445-8877

Paul@TheLakeLife.com

— Barker Kids of the Week —



Our daughter, Sanya, gets KOTW notice this week after she got to tour the new Indeck power plant in Niles.

**Birch Lake Flotilla
& 80th birthday celebration
for Dennis Phipps!
Wednesday July 14 – 6 p.m.**

***Due to the past successful
flotillas, let's do it again!***

***Meet in the middle of the lake
with your boat.***

***Bring an Appetizer.
Boats will be tied together and
we will walk from boat to boat
sharing food and camaraderie.***

***Look for the boats in middle!
Birthday cake & Phipps favorite
firewater for all***

Adults only

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

Granger Chapel
• Large Rooms • Children's Room
• Spacious Cafe/Lounge

574-232-1411
www.mcgannhay.com

*"The perfect location between
Michigan and Indiana"*

Pat & Tessa McGann, Birch Lake Residents, Eastside

Tri-County Bookkeepers
tax accounting & payroll services since 1955

**An accounting practice serving
southwestern Michigan for over
60 years specializing in
small business accounting**

We offer A free no-obligation discussion about your business requirements, competitive pricing, personal account manager, corporate & personal tax prep, tax planning/tax representation, full-service payroll, affordable time keeping solutions, financial analysis, pay-as-you-go Workers' Comp Insurance

Tax planning

Need assistance with your tax planning? Don't we all! We can help you plan for your taxes before your business is even off the ground

Bookkeeping/Financial Statement Compilation

Depending on your needs, we can do your bookkeeping for you or we can teach you how to accurately keep records

Company Structure

Let us help you decide what the best organization is for you

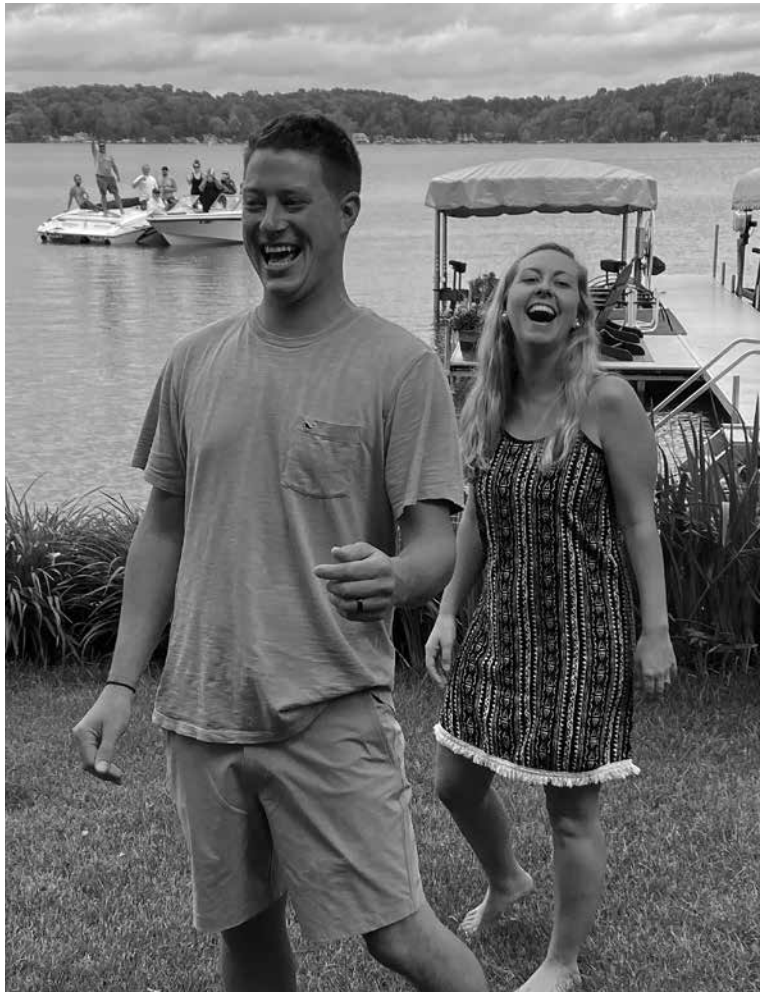
Federal and State Forms

We'll help you apply for all the tax IDs and forms you need

**2056 Plaza Drive
Benton Harbor, MI 49022
269-926-2191**

— Barker Kids of the Week —

Alex and Briana Ball (east side) revealed on Sunday their fifth generation Birch Lake baby will be a boy!



Calvin Schlemmer and his Grandpa, Bernie Garceau (east side), were the great gypsy moth hunters this week.

— Birch Lake Boat Parade —



Come Join the 4th of July Boat Parade!

Everyone loves a parade! The marvelous, stupendous and fantastic Birch Lake Boat Parade will be happening Saturday the 3th of July at 4 pm.

The theme this year is "Our Heroes." Your hero could be a veteran, a first responder, a Disney character, or your next-door neighbor. Your hero could be what got you through COVID. Rumor has it there might be a Jack Daniels boat. Let your imagination run wild and join in the fun. Competition will be tough for the coveted, Grand Champion Trophy!

If you don't want to decorate but want to join in the fun, just have your family name on the side of the boat and participate in the parade. Please stop at the Weesner/Eshleman pier by on the southside by 3:45 pm to register and allow the judges to see your boat. The line will form behind the Grand Marshal's boat which will lead the parade around the lake. Awards will be given out as you come back around by the judges.

If you are going to watch the parade from a boat, please stay towards the middle of the lake (and out of the boat lane) so the parade can cruise near the piers for shore spectators.

And the Grand Marshal Is: Randy Welch

Randy was born and raised in South Bend. On November 17, 1967, he went to Vietnam and joined his platoon shortly thereafter. They operated in the northern part of the country just below the DMZ. Typically for the Marine



Corps it is a 13-month tour of duty. However, February 1, 1968 at 14:30 hours they were ambushed and were involved in a 45-minute firefight where he was wounded. He woke up in the belly of a CH-46 helicopter and Medevacked to a field hospital and ultimately shipped out to Japan. He spent two months in Japan where they rehabilitated his left leg, and then was sent back to the United States where he spent seven months at the Great Lakes Naval Hospital, which was the nearest hospital to his home. After a total of nine months in the hospital, he received orders to Camp Lejeune in North Carolina where he spent six months on temporary duty and was retired as a 2nd Lieutenant on December 28th, 1968. After leaving the military, Randy joined the family business, Barger Packaging in Elkhart and worked there for 28 years, eventually becoming president of the company. The company was sold, and he retired at the age of 53. He said, "I've enjoyed my time at Birch Lake more than anybody would ever know." Randy is a former Commodore and he and his wife, Fran, daughter Ashly, son Randy Jr. and grandchildren Max and Taylor have lived in four different homes on Birch Lake.

— First Party in Two Years! —

Stock the Bar Party

Thanks to everyone who joined us for our first ever BLYC Stock the Bar Party!

Despite the diluvial weekend with multiple tornado warnings, the skies cleared enough for us to enjoy a few hours visiting with friends and neighbors.

Special thanks to Phil and Sandy for tending the bar, to VC Barb Cassady and my father-in-law Bill Holleman for helping set up, and to all of our guests who braved the weather and contributed to the supplies for this season.

We look forward to seeing you all at the upcoming parties, cookouts, and other events this summer!

~ Chas Grundy



— Select Boating Rules —

Boating safety rules on Birch Lake

Who may operate a boat

People under the age of 12 may operate a boat powered by a motor of no more than 6 hp. If the motor is more than 6 hp but below 35 hp, they can operate a boat only if they have been issued a boating safety certificate and have it on board, and are directly supervised by a person at least 16 years of age. People under the age of 12 may not operate a boat with a motor of more than 35 hp under any conditions.

People born on or after July 1, 1996, may operate a boat only if they have been issued a boating safety certificate and have it on board.

People born before July 1, 1996 may operate a boat without restrictions.

Who may operate a personal watercraft (PWC, jet ski)

People less than 14 years of age may NOT operate a PWC. People age 14 or 15 years of age may operate a PWC only if they have a boating safety certificate and are accompanied on board by their parent or legal guardian.

People age 16 and born before Dec. 31, 1978 may operate a PWC only if they have a boating safety certificate.

People born on or before Dec. 31, 1978 may operate a PWC without restrictions.

Regulations specific to PWCs

Everyone riding or being towed behind a PWC must wear a USCG approved wearable Type I, II or III personal flotation device (inflatables not allowed).

The lanyard of a PWC's engine cut-off switch must be attached to the person, clothing or PFD of the operator.

A PWC must be operated in a reasonable and prudent manner; it is illegal to jump the wake of another vessel close to that vessel, weave a PWC through traffic or swerve at the last moment to avoid collision.

A PWC must be operated at "slow, no wake speed: if crossing within 150 feet behind another vessel unless the other vessel is also a PWC.

It is illegal to harass wildlife or disturb aquatic vegetation with a PWC

Other important regulations

"Slow, no wake speed" means very slow speed whereby the wake created is minimal.

Improper distance is not maintaining a proper distance while operating a boat or PWC or towing a person. To maintain a proper distance when you are operating at "slow, no wake speed," the vessel and persons being towed must not be within 100 feet of shore, any other

boat or PWC, a dock or raft.

Improper direction is the failure to operate in a counterclockwise direction.

Requirements for towing skiers

Every vessel towing a person on skis, a surfboard or similar device must have a person on board in addition to the operator observing the towed person at all times.

Persons being towed must stay at least 100 feet away from shore, all vessels, docks and rafts.

It is illegal for anyone to sit, stand, walk or ride on the bow, gunwales or transom of a motorboat at any speed greater than "slow, no wake speed."

It is illegal to operate any vessel in the wake from that vessel can cause damage to shorelines, other vessels, docks, piers and rafts.

Personal flotation devices (PFD, life jacket)

Every person riding a personal watercraft or being towed behind a PWC or other vessel must wear a USCG approved Type I, II or III PFD. Inflatable PFDs are not allowed on PWC or while being towed behind a PWC or other vessels.

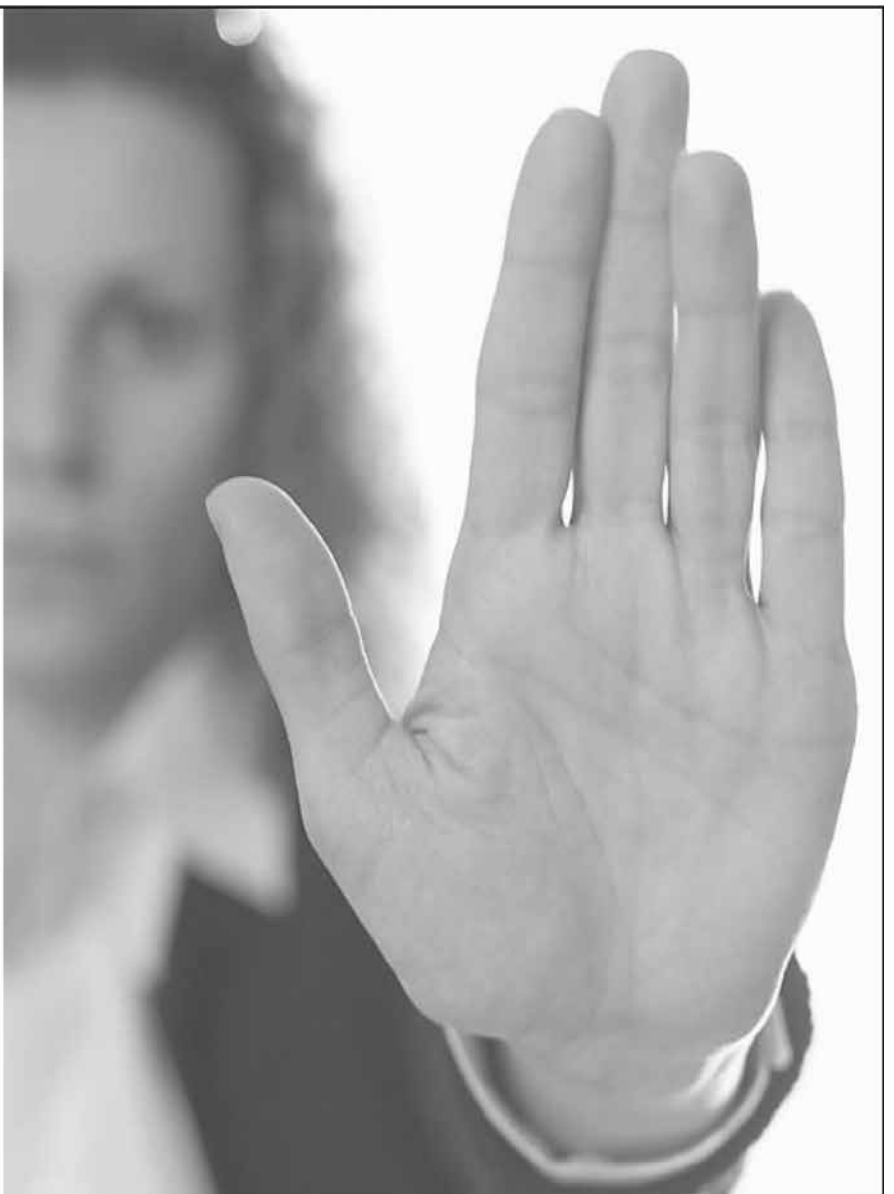
This message is brought to you by the Homeowners Association of Birch Lake

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_{MPH}**



This message is brought to you by the Homeowners Association of Birch Lake

YOUR HOROSCOPE

Aries (March 21-April 19)

Home and family are your main focus this week, especially your relations with a parent. It's a busy week with errands and short trips. You want to talk to everyone and express your opinions. On Thursday, children might be an increased responsibility. Lovers' quarrels are also likely. By Saturday, parents should be extra vigilant to avoid accidents with their kids. This week is a bit of a rocky road for romance - no question.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

This is a fast-paced week because you have so much on the go! Short trips, increased reading, writing and studying, busy errands plus conversations with siblings, relatives and neighbors not to mention an ambitious To Do list - enough to make one gasp. Meanwhile, you might entertain at home and buy beautiful things for your home as well. Slow down and take it easy so that you can stay on top of things with grace and inner control.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Although your primary focus this week is on money, earnings, cash flow and your possessions, nevertheless, this is a dicey week when it comes to your communications with others, especially daily contacts, neighbors and siblings and relatives. Knowing this ahead of time, you can be patient. You will definitely notice power struggles on Thursday. Please note, on Friday/Saturday, there is an accident-prone influence for your sign so pay attention.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)

You continue to attract favorable situations and friendly attention from friends and admirers. Nevertheless, be aware of a stressful influence that could impact your earnings, your cash flow or something that you own. Towards the end of the week, a source of earnings might be interrupted. Possibly, you will lose or break something that you own. You might even have an argument with someone about the ownership of something.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)

Primarily, this is a low-key time for you. This is an excellent week to make some goals. For many of you, it will be a very different year. Avoid these power struggles and instead be graceful and understanding. By the end of the week, do what you can to avoid accidents or unexpected clashes with the police, parents or authority figures.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Your popularity continues! Enjoy schmoozing with friends and groups this week. Grab every chance to share your hopes and dreams for the future with someone because their feedback might help you. Discussions with authority figures will go well because you are admired. However, something going on behind the scenes might stir up some trouble. Midweek, whatever you try to do might meet with opposition or disapproval. And by the end of the week, something out of the blue might upset your secret plans or your desires to do something.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

With the Sun at the top of your chart, you look fabulous to others now. Bosses, parents and important people are impressed with you, even if you don't do anything special. Because of this advantage, now is the time to act. Make your pitch! However, a very different influence might interrupt a friendship this week. Power struggles with a group or a friend, especially someone older might take place midweek.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

You are still restless for travel and adventure this week, which is why you are up for anything and eager to accept all invitations to fun outings! However, something disconcerting that you might face this week could be power struggles with a parent, a boss or someone in a position of authority - including the police. This clash could take place midweek. In fact, it might increase in intensity so that by the weekend, you are truly at odds with someone to the extent that you make a break.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Many details related to shared property, taxes, debt, insurance issues and inheritances continue to absorb your attention. You might encounter power struggles in discussions with someone midweek. Be wise and avoid controversial subjects like politics, religion and racial issues. By the end of the week, travel plans might suddenly change or you might encounter unexpected changes with school plans or something to do with medicine and the law.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

This week you will need more sleep. Meanwhile, some kind of dispute about inheritances and shared property or insurance issues might arise midweek. These are never easy. In fact, by the weekend, something unexpected might change everything. Take things slow and easy but expect the best. Do your homework so that you are well-prepared to defend your best interests, especially financially speaking.

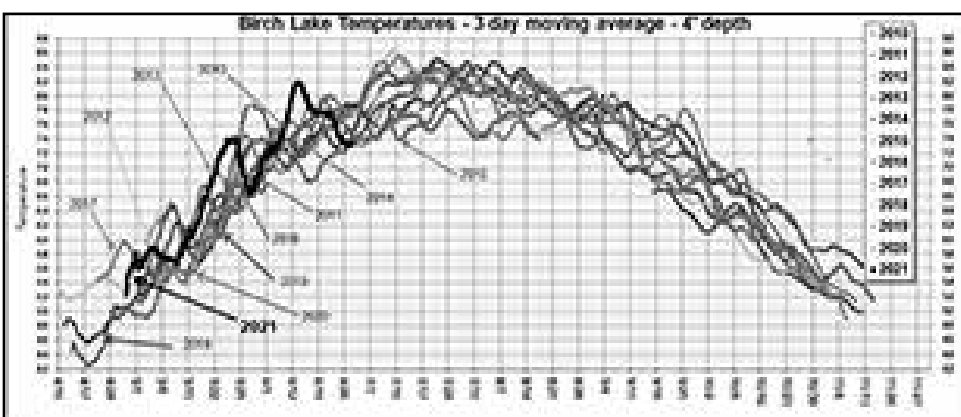
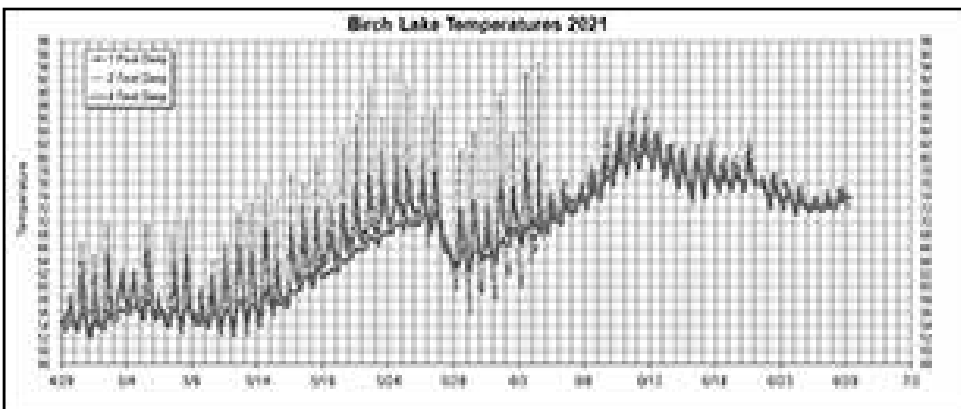
Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

You are still working hard and feeling a sense of reward because you are getting better organized. Bit by bit, step-by-step. Power struggles with a partner or close friend might arise midweek. Meanwhile, repressed grievances might come out into the open. This could be why - by the weekend, some relationships are in trouble. Meanwhile, guard against impulsive, reckless decisions, which feel good in the moment but are later regrettable.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

You are definitely in a playful mood and keen to party, socialize, enjoy sporting events, which is why you will grab every chance to have some fun. This will also include your enjoyment of playful activities with kids. Romance is rewarding as well. Having said that, power struggles related to your job might take place midweek. They could grow into a full-blown argument by the weekend that indicates a split with someone.

Birch Lake Environmental Data



Temps provided by Steve Quinlan

The Moon for this Saturday

(At Midnight, US Central time, as viewed from the Northern Hemisphere)
Illuminated Fraction: 0.273
2.4 days after last quarter



Sunrise: 06:10:27 AM
Sunset: 21:22:22 PM
Moonrise: 02:16:49 AM
Moonset: 15:39:53 PM
Daylight: 15 Hr 11 Min 54 Sec

Birch Barker Funnies



Be sure to bring up politics at Thanksgiving this year, to save on Christmas gifts.



If you ever feel like your brain is inadequate... Think of this guy!

**I tried to re-marry my ex-wife.
But she figured out I was only after my money.**





~Birch Lake Recipes~



Provided Exclusively to the Birch Barker from Mrs. Ima Foodnudge

Cheeseburger sliders with sauce

Cheeseburger Sliders with Burger Sauce
These cheeseburger sliders are stuffed with cheese and have an easy burger sauce, baked or grilled, these sliders are scrumptious.

Prep Time 15 minutes

Cook Time 20 minutes

Total Time 25 minutes

Servings 24

Ingredients

Cheese Stuffed Hamburgers

- 3 lb ground hamburger
- 24 ½" cubes cheddar cheese use a block of cheese
- 3 tablespoons BBQ Grill Rub
- 1 cup Worcestershire

Burger Sauce

- 4 tablespoons ketchup
- 4 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 4 tablespoons dill or sweet relish

Baked Hamburgers

- 24 mini hamburger buns
- 1 cup burger sauce
- 24 cheese stuffed cooked hamburger patties
- 24 tomato slices
- ruffled bib lettuce
- 6 slices Colby cheese slices cut into quarters

Instructions

Make the Burger Sauce

1. Measure equal portions of ketchup, mayo, and relish (either dill or sweet).
2. Mix in a small container, and chill until ready to use. This sauce is SO easy and really makes burgers amazing!

Oven Bake the Hamburgers

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees.
2. Line a large sheet pan with parchment paper.
3. Cut 24 cheddar cheese 1" cubes from a large block of cheese.
4. In a large bowl, mix hamburger meat, grill rub, and Worcestershire sauce until well combined. Use a 2" ice cream scoop to get cheeseburgers even sized, place a ½" cube of cheddar cheese inside, and form into a ball. Place on the parchment-lined sheet pan.
5. BAKE 400 degrees 20 minutes until well done, an internal temperature of 160 degrees.

Assemble Hamburgers

6. Slice buns open, spread burger sauce on each side of the bun.
7. Stack lettuce, tomato, burger, ¼ of a Colby cheese slice, and serve on a patriotic tray (or in cupcake wrappers) and stick a flag toothpick on top. Serve with burger sauce.

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



Serving you for over 30 years!

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

For an online quote, go to www.odonnellsdocks.com



12097 M-60 • Jones, MI
269-244-1446
info@odonnellsdocks.com
Authorized Dealer For:




Prime Property Care

Gavin Francis
313 North O'keefe St.
Cassopolis, MI 49031
(269) 591 9848

- Mowing
- Edging
- Spring/Fall Clean UP
- Hedges
- Gutter Cleaning
- Rock/Mulch Installation

gavinfrancis@rocketmail.com

— Camp Tannadoonah —

Happy Holiday Weekend! Please join us at Camp for the return of the Pancake Breakfast! Bring your family and friends out to camp Sunday morning, July 4 from 8:30-11 am, for an all-you-can-eat pancakes and sausage breakfast! Cost is \$5 for ages 10 and older; \$2 for ages 5-10, and free for kids 4 and younger.

We will have outdoor seating options as well as a carry out option. All of our staff and volunteers working in the kitchen will be fully vaccinated. We will have camp apparel and other items available to purchase at the Trading Post, too.

All proceeds from the Pancake Breakfast will go towards the Morris Lodge restoration project. If you cannot attend on Sunday, but would like to make a contribution to the Morris Lodge project, please go to givegrove.com/100years. Morris Lodge was built in 1938 and is one of the most recognizable buildings in camp. Many campers wait years for their chance to finally live in Morris Lodge! They even have their own song that they sing at Council Fire on Friday night.

Morris Girls' Song

On a hill, above Birch Lake
In among the trees
Flies the flag of Tannadoonah
Waving in the breeze



Tannadoonah, Tannadoonah
Hail to thee we sing
Senior girls of Morris Lodge
Hear our voices ring

Over the past few years, we have made huge progress on this project. So far, we have replaced the roof, replaced all of the exterior siding and windows, repaired the chimney, redone the electrical and lighting throughout the building, and refinished the interior walls.

This spring we installed a gas-fueled fireplace so we can once again make use of the beautiful fireplace in Morris Lodge. Due to changes in the fire code, we have not been able to use the fireplace since the late 1990s.

This fall, we plan to completely renovate, expand, and upgrade the bathrooms in this cabin. We will be installing showers which we've never before had in this cabin! The Morris campers are typically our oldest girls, so they will greatly appreciate having their own place to

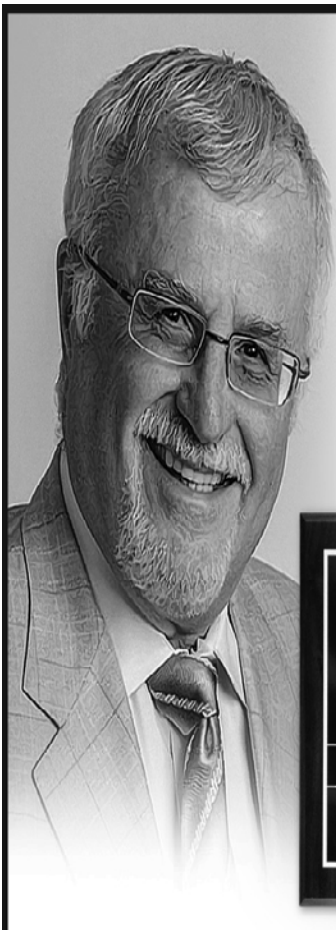


shower, without having to walk to the shower house every day.

Once the bathrooms are finished there are just 3 pieces left to this project: 1) we will be building a deck and firepit on the south side of the Lodge, which will be a great place for the campers to hang out, and also for rental groups to use for events. 2) We plan to re-finish the original hardwood floors in the cabin. And finally, 3) we will replace all of the bunk beds and furniture in the cabin.

If you come up to the breakfast on Sunday, please take a moment to go check out Morris Lodge and see how beautiful it is looking. We are excited to bring this building back to its original glory!

~Mrs. Amber



The **TOP SELLING** Realtor
in 2020 for Cressy & Everett and
a waterfront resident
for over 25 years.



2020 MLS Diamond Award Winner
2020 Chairmans Club

Dennis Bamber REALTOR®
Cell, 574.532.3808
dennisbamber@cressyeverett.com

Cressy & Everett
REAL ESTATE
Above. And Beyond.

701 Spruce Street • Dowagiac, MI 49047



CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

FOR SALE

24' camper. 1 large slide out. 2 queen size beds. Shower. Bathroom, A/C, TV, Microwave, stove/ oven. Very clean. Makes for a great over-flow for guests. Asking \$13,000. Bob Groszek (south side) 219-384-9291

7' adjustable solid steel ladder.

Contact Bud Hall (C) 219-669-9711. \$50.



Solid Oak corner TV cabinet.

Fits up to a 42 inch TV. Has lots of storage with attractive glass doors. Asking \$100. Call Margie Trybus (east side) 269-476- 2563 or 312-802-8201.

Braille dictionary for sale. Must see to appreciate.

FOR RENT:

Are you interested in a unique fun vacation? Check out our Florida Village house at ourhome4rent.com/cjp Call 574-596-2154 for more info.

WANTED:

Wanted to rent: a place for 6 adults and 2 kids (aged 13 and 15) between 23 and 27 July...or, if a weekly rental is

required then 23-30 July. Email aathanas@awf.org, DIRECT: +41229990146 MOBILE: +41799696066 | SKYPE: Andrea_Athanas | www.awf.org or contact Camille Butler at (574) 596-1066.

Wanted: Person interested in working few hours a week with random yard work/ watering (not mowing) for few hours each week. Call or text Matt 574-274-8253

Wanted to buy: **fishing net**, must have no holes. Contact Jim 476-9359.

HELP WANTED:

I'm not throwing in the towel yet, but I'm getting old and want to start identi-

fying a replacement for myself as editor of the Birch Barker. If you have an interest, time and any experience with publishing, I'd love to hear from you. Contact Editor Phil Vitale at 476-1680 or email me at sailorphil@philvitale.com or onlinebarker@gmail.com

EDITORS WANTED: msut love grammar.

UBER / LYFT DRIVERS WANTED: must have good driving & criminal record.

SERVICES:

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

BARKER CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Classified ads in the Birch Barker are free to BLYC members, \$5/week for everyone else.

Send your ad to me at sailorphil@philvitale.com.

If you no longer need your ad to run in the Barker please let me know so I can pull it.

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



After Hours Emergency Service



- Bonus — The Only Attitude You Will Receive is a Good One!

Major Credit Cards Accepted



2400 N 5th ● Niles, MI

269-687-7192 Niles, MI

866-751-1470 Toll Free

www.advantageplumbinginc.net

HOW TO BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR

STAY CLEAR OF THE PARADE

Everyone loves to watch the 4th of July Boat Parade, but please watch from the middle of the lake and let the participants parade near the piers ... don't get in the way!

This message is brought to you by the Homeowners Association of Birch Lake



2021 BLYC OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

2018/19 BLYC Officers

Dan Waxman (E), Commodore
317-506-1680 DWaxman@versiti.org

Barb Cassidy (E), Vice Commodore
574-303-2831-bcassady@holycrossvillage.com

Deb Spratt, Treasurer (N)476-2113
debspratt@comcast.net

Mike Sheffieck, Secretary (W).....476-1849
mcsheff@aol.com

Bill Luecht (E), Fleet Captain..... 476-2843
wal303@sbcglobal.net

Karen Curtis-Miller (E)574-261-6712
krcurtismiller@gmail.com

Terry Dugan (S).....476-2814
s581122@aol.com

Bernie Garceau 476-9862
bgarceau@norcoind.com

Chas Grundy (E)574-315-0217
chas.grundy@gmail.com

Deb Hall (Cove)..... 476-7226
bdeh@sbcglobal.net

Patty Luecht (E)476-2615
pgalloway4@yahoo.com

P. Com. Pat McGann (E).....574-532-5377
pat@mcgannhay.com

Sarah Petty (N)..... 476-7068
sarahkpetty@gmail.com

Claudia Phipps (N).....i476-7073
claudia2154@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

Phil Vitale (E).....476-1680
sailorphil@philvitale.com,
or onlinebarker@gmail.com

Sandy Vitale (E) 476-1680
sv6102@gmail.com

Sue Williams (S).....476-8886
smwillia@comcast.net

2018 BLYC Directors

Angela Bergan (E)561-603-5522
berganfsu@aol.com

Greg Bolin (W).....476-2420
gbolin31@aol.com

Ed Chester (E).....476-1010
ed@chesterlawoffice.com

WATER QUALITY AND HOMEOWNERS
Paul Fallon (E), Chairman, Water Quality and
Homeowners Association 476-1467
pauljfallon@gmail.com



BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB

IF YOU HAVEN'T PAID YET,

It's time to pay your 2021 dues!



Support the BLYC, support the Lake, support the Community!

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

Total contribution:

\$ ___ - BLYC Associate Member* Dues (\$10 / year)

\$ _____

*Associate membership is available to current associate members
and for non-lake residents who wish to support the BLYC

\$ ___ - Homeowners' Assoc. (\$10 / year)

Name _____

\$ ___ - Sailing Fees (\$15 / year)

\$ ___ - Building Improvement Fund

Address _____

\$ ___ - Fireworks Fund

\$ ___ - Water Quality Program

\$ ___ - Milfoil/Loosestrife Eradication

\$ ___ - Safety Committee

\$ ___ - Other non-party related expenses

\$ ___ - BLYC Roof Fund

\$ ___ - BLYC AED Fund

\$ ___ - Misc.

Make checks payable to

BLYC

and mail to Deb Spratt, Treasurer
18100 Farmington Hills Dr.
South Bend, IN 46637

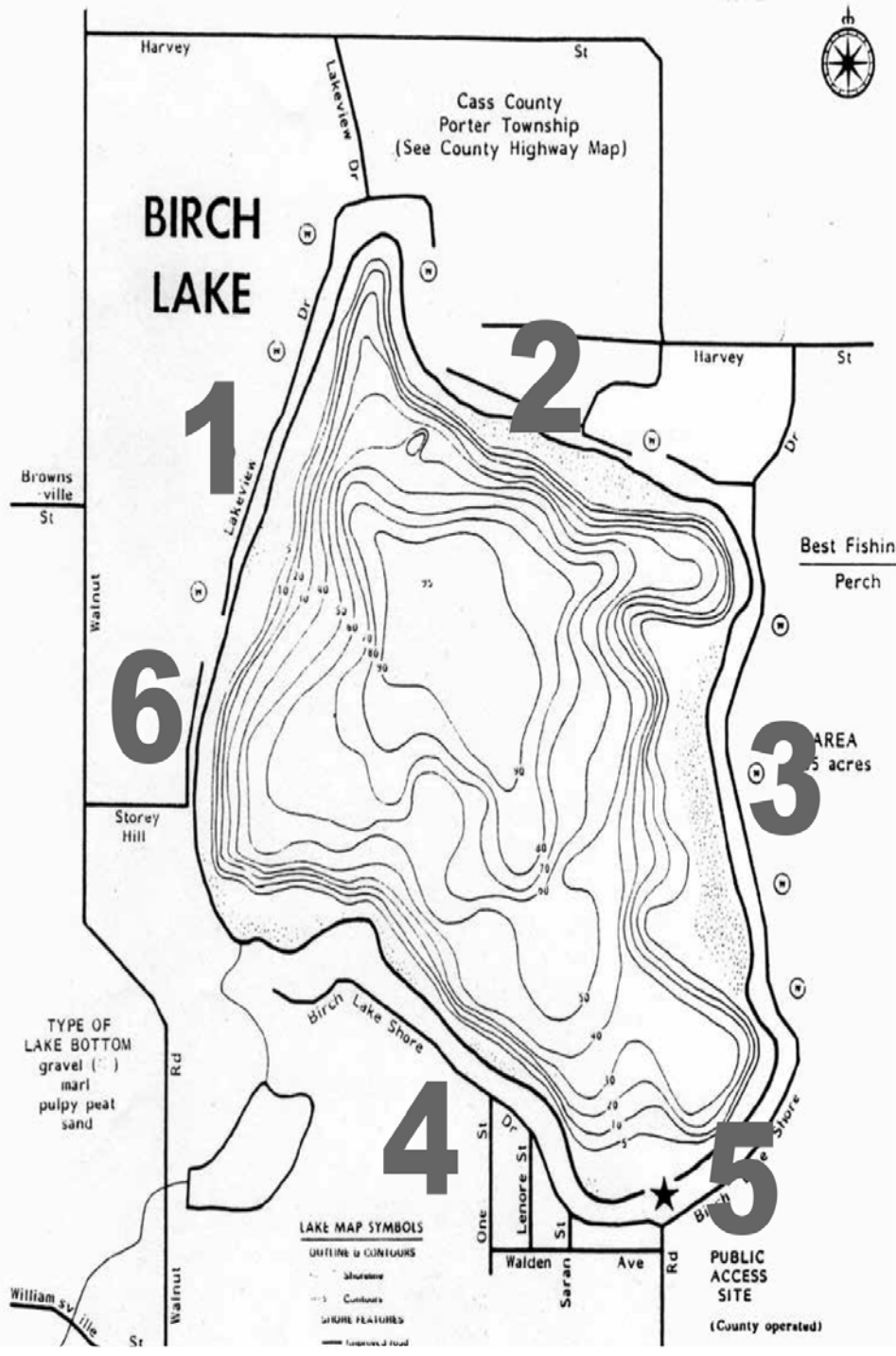
Now you can go online at [HTTP://BIRCHLAKEYACHTCLUB.COM](http://BIRCHLAKEYACHTCLUB.COM) to pay your dues

EMERGENCY HEART DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) locations on Birch Lake

CALL 9-1-1



**FOR
EMERGENCY
USE ONLY
ALARM WILL
SOUND**



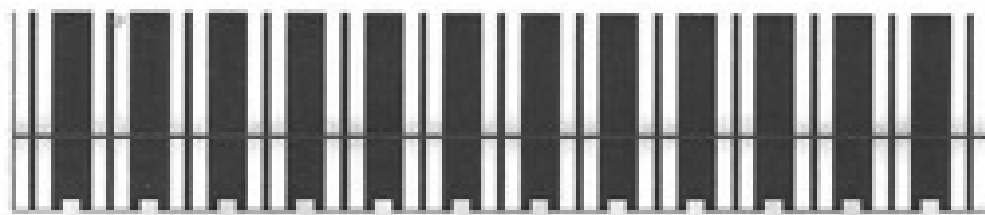
There are six (6) automated external defibrillator units on Birch Lake. The boxes that contain these devices are located at the following locations (see map):

1. **West Shore, Sheffieck home,**
62875 Birch Lakeview Dr.
2. **North Shore, Smitley home,**
14859 Birch Northshore Dr.15046
3. **East Shore, Vitale home,**
63174 Birch Rd.
4. **South Shore, Eberhart home,**
15046 Birch Lakeshore Dr.
5. **South/East Shore, Troeger home,**
63696 Birch Rd.
6. **Southwest Shore, DeYoung home,**
63255 Storey Hill St.

All units are on the ROAD SIDE of the property and accessible by vehicle or on foot.

IN AN EMERGENCY:

1. CALL 911 and report the emergency and the patient's location immediately.
2. Pull the box open, remove the orange-colored unit, TAKE IT TO THE PATIENT and open the device by pressing the white lever at the bottom.
3. An automated voice will guide you through the setup and use of the defibrillator. Follow the instructions as they are given.
4. Continue to follow the instructions as given, and stay with the patient until help arrives.



SUN & SHADE AWNING

Retractable
Awnings
for Decks
and Patios



Roll Up Curtains for Screened Porches



Boat Covers
and Tops

Aluminum
Awnings

Contact Mark at 269-244-5307
markbidelman@comcast.net

12291 Bidelman Road
Three Rivers, MI 49093

www.SunandShadeAwning.com

