

The official publication of the
BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB

Birch Barker

Weekend of June 1, 2013

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Six Impossible things

Commodore's Comments

"Why, sometimes I've believed as many as six impossible things before breakfast."

I'm furious. We put in an order for nice weather and paid extra to make sure it was here by Memorial Day weekend. I'm told there was some kind of mix-up in Skokie or something. Well, rest assured that I'll be seeking a refund.

Still, it didn't deter some intrepid and dedicated folks from enjoying the weekend, even getting out on the lake in the rain. What's a little rain?

I heard from the Road Commission this week that they will be doing some drainage work and paving on Lenore street. It is scheduled to start and finish this summer.

Last week, I mentioned wanting to share some stories from our lake. One of

my favorites involves a past Commodore who took advantage of an old Yacht Club tradition called reciprocity. You see, reciprocity is where one Yacht Club allows members from a different Yacht Club to take advantage of facilities, dining areas, etc. It is implied (and sometimes explicitly stated) that the other Yacht Club must also allow outside members.

However, most of these Yacht Clubs are somewhat more ... established. These clubs feature large clubhouses, sweeping lawns and manicured gardens, 5-star dining, athletic facilities, and so on. Now I love our facility as much as the next guy, but some of these places have coat closets larger than our entire club.

And so it was that one of our friends decided to drop into a Yacht Club while on a trip across the country. The story goes that he claimed reciprocity and the club required some proof of membership. After some shuffling, he had a neighbor

2013 BLYC Calendar

June 1	Porter Township Cleanup Day
June 15	Commodore/V.Commodore Party
June 22	Sewer Plant Open House
June 22	Spaghetti Dinner
July 6	Fireworks and Boat Parade
July 7	Fireworks rain date
July 7	Pancake Breakfast
July 19	Ladies Golf Outing
July 20	Poker run
July 26	Men's Golf Outing
July 26	Ladies on the Lake
July 27	Camp T Hog Roast
August 3	Corn and Sausage Roast
August 17	Fall Dinner
September 7	Sailing Awards
September 14	Card and Game Party
October 12	Chili Cookoff

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

The Birch Barker is always soliciting and accepting materials for publication. Please E-mail your materials to sailorphil@philvitale.com, put the items in the stone newspaper/mailbox at my home, 63174 Birch Rd. (East Shore), mail to Phil Vitale, 102 So. Broadway, Cassopolis, MI 49031, or fax to (269) 445-9200. Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you want photos or any other materials returned. To contact me by phone, call (269) 476-1680 or (269) 445-9200, or BLYC Commodore Chas Grundy, 269-476-7062. --Phil Vitale, editor

— Birch Lake Notes —

back home mock up a membership card and fax it to the club. Apparently, it worked and they let him in!

- *Commodore Chas*

Answer to last week's question:

Remember last week when we posed the question: "Who Coined the Name 'Birch Barker?'"

Well, here's the answer:

Gregory Cox was the originator of the Birch Barker and named the paper. The Cox family including wife Clara, children Jane, Tom and Jim, lived in the small cottage behind the Greenig/ Renolds area on the south shore.

In 1946 he came up with the idea of a lake paper to keep the lake kids busy during the summer. After high school Greg had joined a traveling circus for a time and became the circus "Barker."

Amazing that after 67 years our lake newspaper is still growing strong...

-*Bud*

Keep bugs away

Apparently the herb sage can keep bugs away ... check out the website: <http://pinterest.com/pin/232005818276575206/>

Thanks to Mr. Bob for the tip.

Congrats to John Luecht

John Luecht, son of BLYC Vice Commodore Bad Patty and Bill Luecht (east side), recently conducted his high



Duffy's Artwork — Thanks to Duffy Dufor (east side) for the cool paintings

school band in the performance of his own original composition, American Reunion.

John was born Jan. 16, 1995. He is graduating from high school this weekend and will soon be attending Ivy Tech Community College in Indianapolis to study design technology.

To listen to the performance, go to the following weblink (a YouTube pres-

entation):

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wvf6UAIfxBk&list=UUAXOyS4ChC_e fu6uHyRxoTw&index=1

Sewer Plant Open House

Ever wonder how an effluent sewer plant works? The Porter Township Sewer Plant will have an open house June 22 from 10 am thru 2 pm.

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— Birch Lake Notes —

Refreshments will be provided.

Your Help is Needed!

The Sewer Department & Porter Township need your help!

Please do not flush any type of wipes, diapers or feminine hygiene products into the sewer system. These items get tangled in the grinder pumps and in lift stations causing maintenance problems that could be avoided.

Problems like this may cause replacing pumps or other mechanical parts which may necessitate increasing the maintenance rate. If problem caus-

ing items are not flushed into the system the cost of maintenance and thus the sewer maintenance rate may be maintained.

Barker Deadlines

Please be advised that the deadline for submitting information for any particular edition is always the Tuesday of the week before publication (example: the deadline for materials for the June 1 issue is Tuesday, May 28) ... thanks.

Advertising in the Barker

We are still (and always) accepting both display and classified advertising

for the Birch Barker (see page 17 of today's Barker).

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

Display ads are charged at the low, one-time rate of \$65 for a 1/8 page ad; \$130 for a 1/4 page ad; \$260 for a 1/2 page ad; and \$520 for a full page ad.

For information and help building your ad, contact Phil at 476-1680, 445-9200 or sailorphil@philvitale.com.

All ads are subject to the approval of the editor and/or Commodore, officers

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— Birch Lake Notes —

and board of the Birch Lake Yacht Club.

Online content

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

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

Free Fishing Weekend June 8-9

The Department of Natural Resources reminds everyone the annual Summer Free Fishing Weekend is June 8 and 9. On that weekend, everyone – residents and non-residents alike – can fish without a license, though all other fishing regulations still apply.

Board Meeting this Saturday

Commodore Chas would like to remind board members that there is BLYC Board Meeting this Saturday at 9 am.

Birch Lake Swans

I have been a long-time year-around resident of this beautiful lake for years and I enjoy seeing the swans.

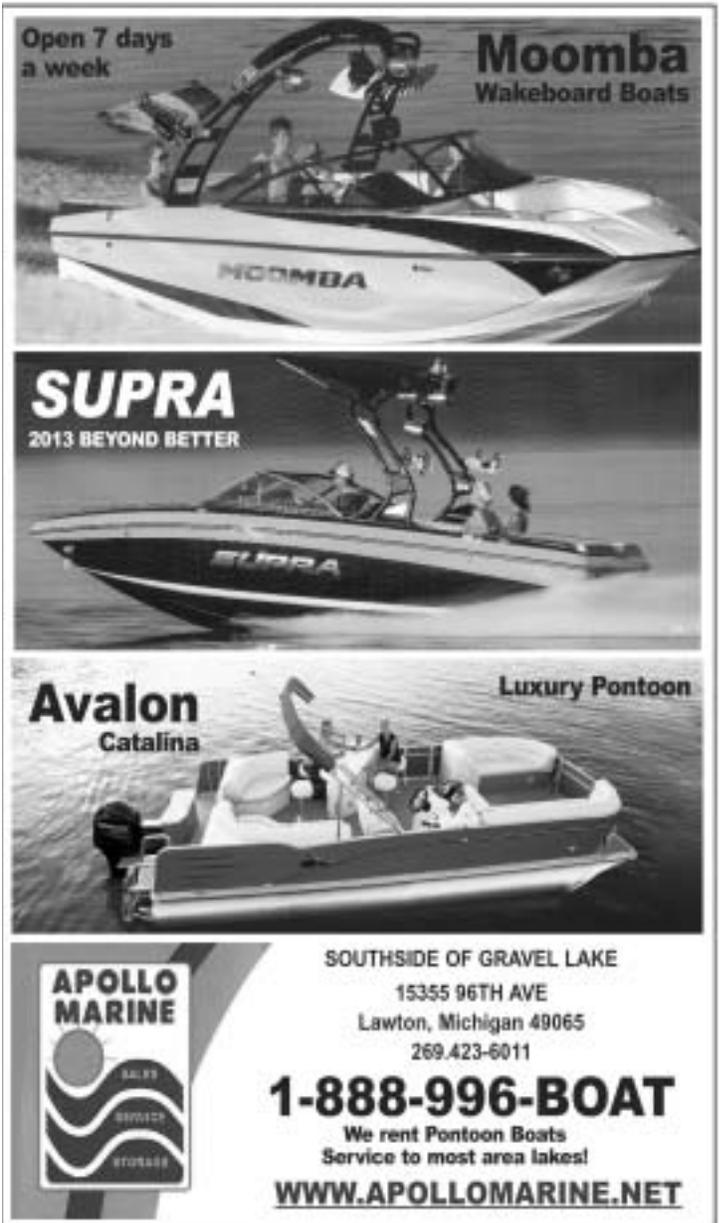
One of the swans was poisoned on our lake last year. Some of our gracious east side neighbors called a habitat shelter where they take in waterfowl birds and nurse them back to health.

They kept her and released her back to Birch Lake. She is not aggressive, but if people chase them with boats or mistreat them they will become aggressive.

I talked to the animal shelter and the DNR about this. They said to leave them be and our lake is too busy for them to stay.

God created nature for us to enjoy so please enjoy your neighbors, nature and lastly the summer days of Birch Lake.

~ thank you, *Linda Curtis, East side*



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— Barker kids of the Week —



'Fletcher' Karceski is 8 months old, and on his first boat ride around Birch Lake. He is the worlds friendliest dog and can be found on the North shore this summer.

Please join us for
**John's
 Open House**
 June 8th
 2 p.m. to ?
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2 - 4 pm



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in?**



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No sailing Memorial Weekend!

Due to the lack of boats and weather we postponed our sailing for a week. We had great intentions of getting out and getting our hulls wet, but mother nature and timing were against us.

For all of us sailors we will regroup and start our season this Sunday at 11 am sharp. I predict warmer weather and favorable winds will allow us to have 3 great races!

We are still looking for volunteers who would like to manage our committee boat, we have many open dates left please come out and enjoy the fun on Sunday mornings.

Hope you had a great week and hope to see everyone out on the water this weekend!!

~Fleet Captain "Mike"



COMMITTEE BOAT:

June Races
2 — OPEN

9 —
16 — Bad Patty
23 —
30 — Bad Patty
4th of July Regatta
(these dates may change due to the Pancake Breakfast. Please watch for updates.)
July 6 —
July 7 —
July Races
14 — Bad Patty
21 —
28 —
August Races
4 — Bad Patty
11 —
18 — Amber and Chas
25 —
Labor Day Regatta
August 31 —
Sept. 1 — Bad Patty
Sept. 2 —

Tallships Challenge — Great Lakes 2013

Although it began last year, the bicentennial commemoration of the War of 1812 will show its real fire power in Summer 2013, when Tall Ships America's bi-national TALL SHIPS CHALLENGE® series of tall ship races and family friendly public maritime festivals sets sail throughout the Great Lakes. In collaboration with local port organizers, Tall Ships America has scheduled visits from members of a fleet of 25 world-class tall ships to 22 U.S. and Ontario communities. The festivities begin on June 14-16 with the Brockville (Ontario) TALL SHIPS® 1812 Tour and culminate September 6-8 with the Tall Ships® Erie event (Erie, Pennsylvania), but not before a historic re-enactment of the 200th Anniversary of the Battle of Lake Erie in Put-in-Bay (Ohio) on September 2.

"Two countries, five Great Lakes, over 25 participating tall ships, 22 port appearances, five races, and millions of visitors-this is our biggest TALL SHIPS CHALLENGE® series to date in terms of ports, impact and numbers," said Tall Ships America Executive Director Bert Rogers. In 2010, when the TALL SHIPS CHALLENGE® series was last in the Great Lakes, the series visited six ports and recorded an economic impact of \$384 million. For 2013, Rogers expects that number to double.

"Operatives at each venue have been working for over a year to create memorable activities and events that not only honor the historical significance of the War of 1812 but also feature the vibrant nature of the host ports and celebrate the magnificence of the tall ships themselves," added Rogers.

Schedule of Maritime Festival Ports and Dates:

July 4-7 - Cleveland, Ohio: Port of Cleveland 2013 Tall Ships® Festival

July 12-14 - Bay City, Mich.: Tall Ship® Celebration

July 26-28 - Duluth, Minn.: Tall Ships® Duluth 2013

August 7-11 - Chicago, Ill.: Tall Ships® Chicago 2013

August 16-18 - Green Bay, Wis.: Baylake Bank Tall Ship® Festival

September 2 - Put-in-Bay, Ohio: Battle of Lake Erie Bicentennial

September 6-8 - Erie, Penn.: Tall Ships® Erie 2013:

In Canada's Ontario Province for Tall Ships® 1812

June 14-16 - Brockville, Eastern Ontario: Brockville TALL SHIPS® 1812 Tour

June 20-23 - Toronto, Ontario: Redpath Waterfront Festival Toronto

June 28-30 - Hamilton, Ontario: TALL SHIPS® Hamilton 2013

June 28-30 - Port Dalhousie: St. Catharines 1812 TALL SHIPS® Visit

July 19-21 - Sault Sainte Marie, Ontario: Sails on the St. Marys, Sault Ste. Marie TALL SHIPS® 1812 Georgian Bay

August 16-18 - Collingwood, Wasaga Beach/Nancy Island, Owen Sound, Ontario

August 24-25 - Penetanguishene, Midland, Discovery Harbour, Ontario Southwestern Ontario: Sails to See

August 30-September 2 - Windsor, Amherstburg, Kingsville, Pelee Island, Ontario

At each site, the tall ships will be open to the public for viewing and feature dockside exhibits and lively interactions with crew. Among the ships participating at a majority of the ports are Norway's 210-foot Sorlandet, the oldest full-rigged ship in the world still in operation; Canada's 72-foot brigantine Pathfinder, and the USA's 198-foot Brig Niagara. The Niagara was instrumental in the War of 1812 as the flagship for Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry. During the Battle of Lake Erie, one of the war's most critical battles, she helped Perry defeat the British fleet, ensuring American control of Ohio and all of Lake Erie.

Races for the TALL SHIPS CHALLENGE® Great Lakes 2013:

Between ports, the tall ships have the option to compete in five offshore races, one in each of the Great Lakes:

Race One: Toronto "Around-the-Buoys" Race in Lake Ontario

Race Two: Cleveland, Ohio to Pelee Passage in Lake Erie

Race Three: Tawas Point, Mich. to Drummond Island in Lake Huron

Race Four: Duluth, Minn. to Whitefish Point in Lake Superior

Race Five: Chicago, Ill. to the top of Lake Michigan

"Students and trainees will sail the ships just as was done during the great Age of Sail," said Rogers. "These races follow long-distance courses on the open water, and the ships sail without using engines. It's all to promote international goodwill through friendly competition."

More race details are available on www.tallshipsamerica.org.

Tall Ships America's TALL SHIPS CHALLENGE® is an annual series that rotates on a three-year cycle between the Atlantic Coast, Great Lakes, and Pacific Coast. Over the past decade, Tall Ships America has coordinated more than sixty TALL SHIPS CHALLENGE® events in 32 cities, stimulating strong tourism and economic development through the coordination of simultaneous family-friendly festivals.

Founded in 1973, Tall Ships America is a non-profit organization dedicated to enriching youth education through character building and leadership programs aboard tall ships. It is the hub for tall ship activity, expertise, and information in North America, and is commended by Congress as the Sail Training organization representing the United States in the international forum. In addition to organizing the TALL SHIPS CHALLENGE® Series, Tall Ships America supports the people, ships and programs of sail training through grants, scholarships, conferences, education, publications, and public events and advocacy.

The mission of Tall Ships America is to encourage character building through sail training, promote sail training to the North American public, and support education under sail.

For a full list of participating ships in the TALL SHIPS CHALLENGE® Great Lakes 2013, visit <http://bit.ly/19WE9vp>. For more information about Tall Ships America or to learn how to sign aboard a tall ship, visit www.tallshipsamerica.org or contact Lori Aguiar (lori@tallshipsamerica.org).

— Water Quality —

Lessons from the regional meeting

As many of you are aware, your Birch Lake Yacht Club through its Water Quality Committee has long been a participating member of the Michigan Lakes and Streams Associations. This entity sponsors numerous worthwhile and helpful activities, including: publishing the Michigan Riparian magazine, tracking and trying to influence, and/or responding to legislative, judicial, and executive government activities, holding quarterly statewide meetings and annual conferences, and co-sponsoring the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program. Currently the MLSA has about 275 member lake associations.

This MLSA has divided the state into 15 regions. The region in which we are located, Region #3, has about 60 lake associations as members, it covers the southwest portion of Michigan and is particularly active in its own right, each year having an educational seminar and 2 open meetings in which each lake association present (typically 20 — 25) shares news of its status, successes, and challenges.

Finding these meetings both informative and enjoyable, typically a pair of your Water Quality Committee members attend.

Items we learned or relearned, at this May's meeting include:

1) In order to address their common problems (typically weeds), the vast majority of those lakes present have had to petition their township boards to create Special Assessment Districts, with average annual fees (in addition to voluntary dues) of \$100 to \$200 or more.

2) Most area lakes treat much higher percentages of their lake for Eurasian watermilfoil than we do here at Birch.

3) A few area lakes have already identified colonies of hybrid watermilfoil through genetic testing. The jury is still out on how best to treat this faster growing, more hardy, nuisance.

4) Although the state DNR has extremely limited (virtually no) money for any activity we might deem worthwhile, its Trust Fund, which receives gas and oil pumping fees, is loaded and anxious to spend it's money on more and larger public boat launches. They currently have their sights set on 320 acre Eagle Lake, here in Cass County.

5) A number of lakes have actually participated in licensed swan and geese eradication programs, even though their hopes of success are only limited.

6) As we've reported before, none of these associates can even conceive of having one of our finest assets, which we tend to take for granted, the weekly, free, hand-delivered to everyone (not just members), Birch Barker.



7) One lake, of roughly 1,020 acres, named after an inert gemstone, a few miles due west of our lake, claims it spends some \$18,000 on fireworks each July 4th. This is a little better than double what we lay out. While I'm sure our show is better, if your competitive juices have been whetted, send Chas another, bigger check for this year's Birch Lake fireworks.

Please recall that these stories come from active members of active lake communities. As such, they are likely to describe conditions more favorable than those in place at the unrepresented lakes.

Bottom line? There is no doubt, Birch Lake remains God's favorite.

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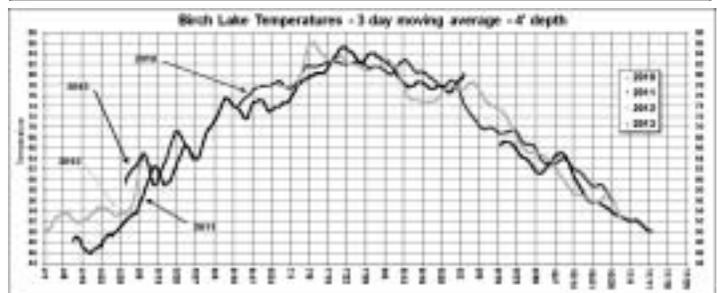
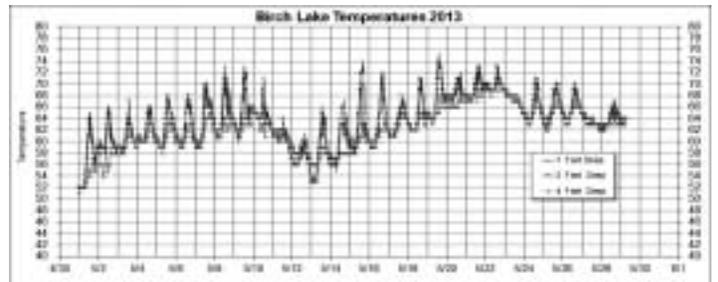
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Stu's Star Stuff

One Encore

The golden tresses of Queen Berenice adorn the sky on early summer evenings. They form the constellation Coma Berenices, or the Northern Crown, a spray of stars that's visible through binoculars high in the east at night-fall.

The constellation represents the beautiful hair of Queen Berenice of Egypt. She was so concerned for the safety of her husband Ptolemy III when he went off to war, that she vowed to cut off her glorious long hair as a sacrifice to Venus, should he be spared. When he eventually returned safely home, she kept her promise, and Zeus placed her beautiful hair in the heavens to shine among the stars.

If you look deep into the constellation, you'll see that the locks have some beautiful decorations - thousands of galaxies that form the Coma Cluster.

The cluster is only about 300 million light-years away, so its galaxies are fairly easy to observe and study. There's plenty to see - galaxies that range from little puffs of stars to monsters that are many times larger and more massive than our own galaxy, the Milky Way.

Galaxies can be classified in several ways. The most common is a system developed by Edwin Hubble, which is based on the shapes of galaxies.

The most beautiful galaxies are called spirals. The Milky Way is a spiral, and so is the Andromeda galaxy.

Spirals are flat disks of stars with bright bulges in their centers. Spiral arms wrap around these bulges. Spiral arms probably form as the result of waves that sweep through

the galactic disk. Like the waves on the ocean, these "density waves" don't carry material with them. Instead, they influence matter as they pass by. In the case of galaxies, they squeeze clouds of interstellar gas, triggering new star formation. Some newborn stars are massive, hot, and bright, so they make the spiral arms appear bright. These massive stars are blue or white, so the spiral arms look blue-white, too. The gaps between the arms contain older stars, which are not as bright.

In some spirals, a wave organizes the stars in the center into a bar. The arms of barred galaxies spiral outward from the ends of the bar. The Milky Way falls into this class of spirals.

A second class of galaxy is the ellipticals. Like spirals, they are named for their shapes: they look like fat, fuzzy footballs. Instead of spreading out into a thin disk, as they do in spirals, the stars in ellipticals wrap completely around the galaxy's heart in all directions.

The largest galaxies in the universe are giant ellipticals. They can contain a trillion stars or more, and span as much as one million light-years — about 10 times the diameter of the Milky Way. Like many large spirals, most of them appear to contain "supermassive" black holes at their hearts -- star-gobbling monsters that are as much as three billion times as massive as the Sun.

The final class of galaxies contains a hodge-podge of shapes — anything that looks neither spiral nor elliptical. These are the irregulars. These galaxies have no identifiable form, although, like looking at fluffy clouds

The Moon for June 1

(At Midnight, US Central time, as viewed from the Northern Hemisphere)
Illuminated Fraction: 0.339
1.5 days after last quarter



Sunrise: 6:11am
Sunset: 9:13pm
Moonrise: 2:43am
Moonset: 3:39pm
Day length: 15h 2m

on a summer day, one might envision something recognizable, such as in the case of the Horse Head nebula or the Sombrero galaxy. Their stars, gas, and dust spread randomly. These are the smallest galaxies, and may contain as few as one million stars. They may be like the "building blocks" that came together to form the first large galaxies. Many small irregular galaxies orbit our Milky Way.

Look for the Northern Crown between the end of the handle of the Big Dipper and Leo's tail. It looks like a small tiara.

That's it. I'm done. Thanks for having me. Next week's show is canceled and so are all the other weeks.



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YOUR HOROSCOPE

ARIES — (Mar. 21- April 20) — Visit friends or relatives you rarely see. Concentrate on work. Put your efforts into making changes to your domestic scene. Look into joining groups that can give you hands-on advice about business. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

TAURUS — (Apr. 21- May 21) — Try to make amends by planning a nice dinner for two. Don't shy away from potential mates they want to introduce you to. Put your energy into your work or moneymaking ventures rather than into your emotional life this week. You are ready to blow up and your stress level has gone into over drive. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

GEMINI — (May 22-June 21) — Don't make mountains out of molehills if you want to avoid conflict. You may be more emotional than usual. Help those incapable of taking care of their personal affairs. If you're single, get out there and you'll meet someone new. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

CANCER — (June 22-July 22) — You will have the getup and go to con tribute a great deal to groups of interest. Disappointments are likely if your mate embarrasses you in front of friends. Look into real estate. Try to stay calm and understand both sides of the situation. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

LEO — (July 23-Aug 22) — Cultural activities open your eyes to new ways of doing things. Enjoy some socializing this week. Friendships could be terminated quickly if disappointments occur. Join humanitarian groups and let your leadership ability take over. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

VIRGO — (Aug. 23 -Sept. 23) — Don't expect anyone else to pay your bills for you. Be supportive in order to avoid confrontations. Keep an open mind when dealing with youngsters. Your emotions may get the better of you. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

LIBRA — (Sept. 24 -Oct. 23) — Travel will promote new romantic

encounters and additional cultural knowledge. You can find out important information if you listen to friends and relatives. Get busy. Make changes around your house and plan to do some entertaining. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

SCORPIO — (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22) — Opportunities to make financial gains will develop through your connections with other people. Don't let any money slip through your fingers this week. You may find that your plans will cost a little more than you had expected. Opportunities to pamper yourself may unfold. Your lucky day this week will be Friday.

SAGITTARIUS — (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) — Your creative imagination will help you in coming up with unique ideas. Look into real estate. Delve into worthwhile causes that will show results if you put in the effort. Family members will not be happy with the amount of time you are spending away from home. Your lucky day this week will be Saturday.

CAPRICORN — (Dec 22.- Jan. 20) — Be sure to pay attention to your bank account. Do not lend money to friends, or contribute more than necessary to groups unworthy of your cash. Short trips will prove to be more fruitful than you imagined. Deception is likely. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

AQUARIUS — (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) — Opportunities to get involved in investment groups will payoff. It may not be the best time to socialize with clients or colleagues this week. You will have no problem getting your point across to those in a position to help you. You can make financial gains through your unique and creative approach to business. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

PISCES — (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) — Opportunities for advancement at work are apparent. Try to curb overindulgence this week. Nagging has never been something that you could tolerate, and it's once again driving you into a lonely state of affairs. Sign up for courses or join fitness clubs. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.



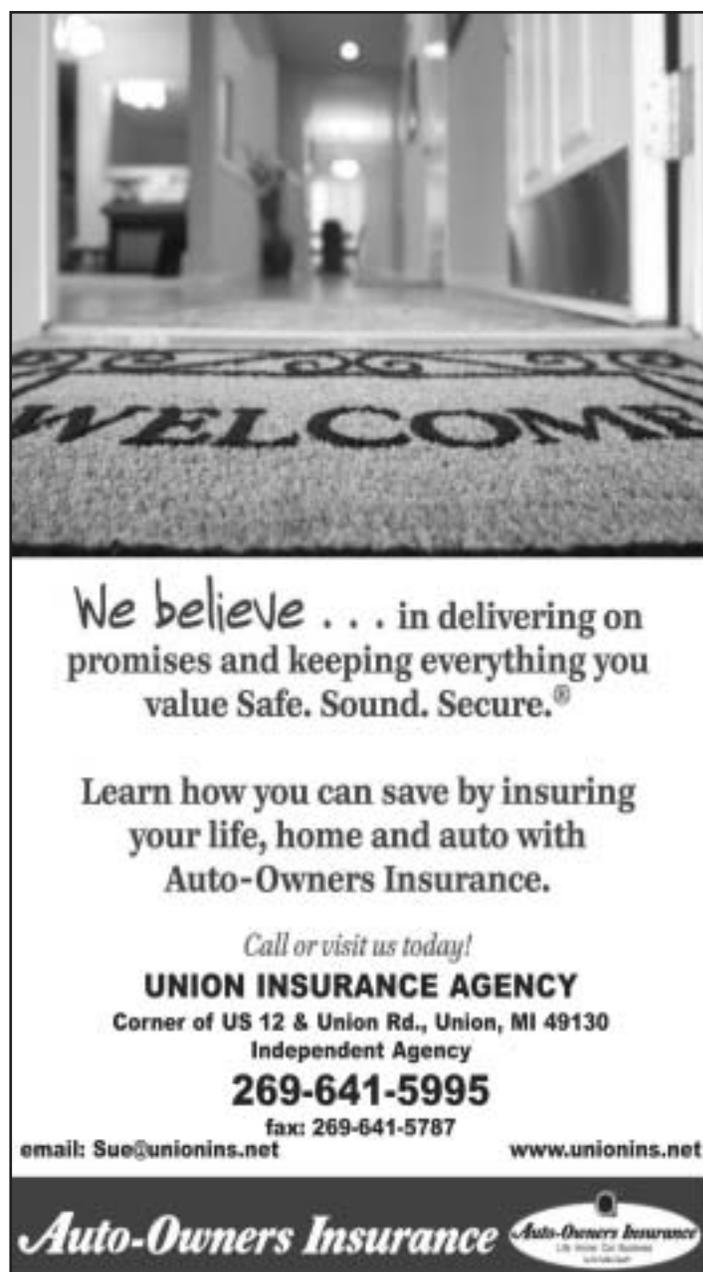
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~Birch Lake Recipes~

Pizza dip

Ingredients

- 8oz cream cheese
- 1 tsp Italian seasoning
- 2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese
- 3/4 cup parmesan cheese
- 8oz jar pizza sauce



Take you cream cheese and Italian seasoning and mix together. Put into bottom of 8 by 8 casserole dish. Top with half of the mozzarella and parm cheeses.

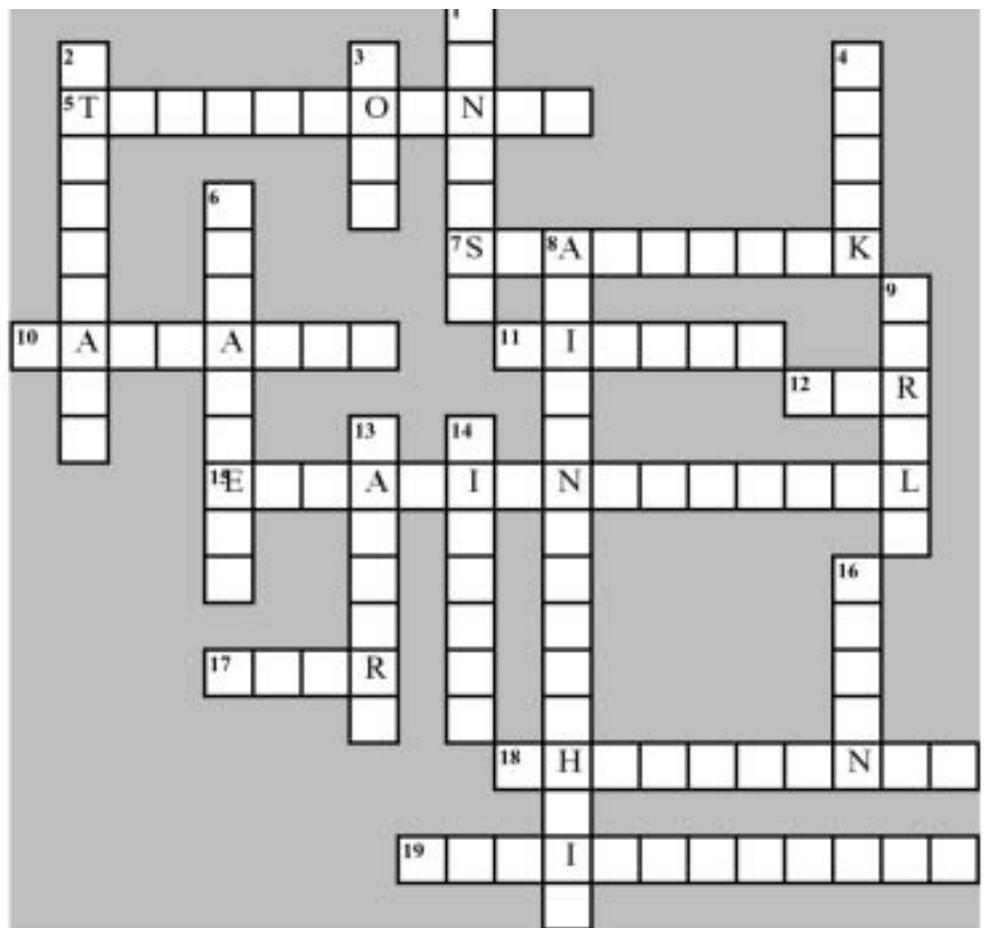
Pour you pizza sauce on top of the cheese. Then top with remaining cheese, sprinkle with more seasoning, and bake at 350' for 30 minutes.....yup, its that easy!
SERVE WITH CRACKERS OR NACHOS



— BIRCH LAKE CROSSWORD PUZZLE —

Can you solve this Birch Lake Crossword Puzzle?

Special thanks to the Puzzle Lady for submitting it ...



Down

Across

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 BIRCH LAKE CAMP 7 NEAREST PARK 10 BLYC VICE COMMODORE 11 2014 BLYC BOAT PARADE THEME 12 ELONGATED, RARE BIRCH LAKE FISH 15 BIRCH LAKE'S WEED PROBLEM 17 BIRCH LAKE WATERFRONT SIGHT 18 BLYC COMMODORE 19 BLYC FIRST EVENT OF THE YEAR | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 MOST COMMON BIRCH LAKE SAILBOAT 2 STAR STUFF AUTHOR 3 NO WAKE ZONE 4 POPULAR ONE-PERSON WATERCRAFT 6 SECOND NEAREST PARK 8 LAID BACK SEATING 9 SHELLED SWIMMER 13 MOST COMMON DUCK 14 DEFUNCT BIRCH LAKE CAMP 16 BIG WADING BIRD |
|---|---|

Camp Tannadoonah

Summer is coming!

Summer is coming! We're getting very close to the start of camp 2013. We are having a Lifeguard Training at camp next week — Tuesday through Friday, and then the waterfront staff arrives on Saturday, June 8th, and the rest of the staff arrives Sunday, June 9th for training! It's not even officially here yet, and the summer already feels like it's flying by!

We are still right on pace with last year's registration numbers so far. On May 28th last year we had 368 campers registered for camp, and as of this afternoon we had 389. That's nearly 40 more kids than we had for the entire summer in 2006 and 2007. We're still hoping to pass 700 campers for this year, so please spread the word about camp!

We have plenty more Tannadoonah yard signs if you have a good place to display one. We'd love to recruit from a larger area, too (e.g., Chicago, Ohio, Michigan, Indy, or even further!). I also have lots of Tannadoonah post cards if you want to share info about camp with friends and family.

We have some great themes for this summer, and are getting excited about planning the activities and decorations for each week. We kick off the summer with All Star Sports Week, then move on to Hollywood Week, Tropical Mini Week, Where the Wild Things Are Week, Sports Extravaganza Week, Buggin' Out Week, Holidays Week, and finally Gypsy Week. It's a good thing we have some creative people on our staff to help plan out all those activities!

Speaking of our staff, we've started a "Meet the Staff" webpage this year! I've been posting bios and photos of all our staff. So if you're sending a camper to camp this year, or you're just curious about our counselors, you can check out here:

<http://tinyurl.com/camptstaff>

This year is a special year for Camp Tannadoonah. Every 5 years (years ending with 3 or 8) we celebrate the Patteran Year. The last week of camp during Patteran Years is always Gypsy Week, and we spend the week doing some cool traditional activities, like tie-dyeing our gypsy bandanas, learning special songs that

we only sing during Patteran years, and going on a treasure hunt for a time capsule that we only dig up during Gypsy Week every 5 years! The time capsule dates back to the 1930s! It's really cool to see all the things they wrote in there.

Last weekend we started putting in our garden up by the dining hall! We planned 3 kinds of beans, edamame, cucumbers, zucchinis, watermelons, cantaloupe, broccoli, and eggplant. Plus we have 6 varieties of tomatoes and 3 varieties of peppers, plus a lot of different herbs that will go in this weekend! We're hopeful that it will supply us with a lot of fresh veggies up at camp this summer. I will likely have a bunch of extra tomato and pepper seedlings if anyone would like a few for your own garden! Just give me a call and let me know.

It's been a busy spring, and we're super excited for our staff to arrive and kick things off!

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

SPAGHETTI-FEST JUNE 22, 6 - 8 pm

Come see the new Yacht Club door purchased with the proceeds from last year's dinner!

TICKETS ON SALE SOON

Tickets will be available at the Commodore's/Vice Commodore's Cocktail Party June 14 or from any member of TEAM EASTSIDE, or by calling 476-1680

\$8 for adults
\$5 for kids 4-10 years old
kids under 3 eat free
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debo36@comcast.net

Paul Fallon, BLYC Water Quality Committee
Chairman (E).....476-1467
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Bob Waddle (E)476-2293
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