

The official publication of the
BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB

Birch Barker

Weekend of June 22, 2013

© Copyright 2013, The Birch Lake Yacht Club



Thanks to Mr. Bob for the cool sailboat race pic ...

Spaghetti?

Commodore's Comments

Piglet sidled up to Pooh from behind. "Pooh?" he whispered.

"Yes, Piglet?"

"Nothing," said Piglet, taking Pooh's hand. "I just wanted to be sure of you."

Thanks to everyone who came out to the Commodore and Vice Commodore's party last weekend. As predicted, some fans of the school in Ann Arbor paid us a visit. Fortunately, they were very polite, decorated a table, and brought some excellent food. We had a good turnout, and we even got a visit from a number of camp counselors (thanks to Patty for inviting them). I can't remember the last time anyone danced during a Yacht Club party! We did find a pair of eyeglasses left at

the party. If you lost a pair, contact me. This Saturday is the Spaghetti Dinner at the Yacht Club. It's the last year that the East Side is hosting it, and they've promised another fantastic event.

In case you feel the need to show off this weekend, Wikipedia points out that "spaghetti is the plural form of the Italian word spaghetti." So you can try to look cool as you slurp pasta and inadvertently splash sauce all over your nice clothes.

When you get a chance, take a look at Birch Lake on Google Maps. They updated their imagery from just the last few months, and it's amazing how clearly you can see the scars where boat props struggle in shallow areas.

~ Commodore Chas

Question of the week:

Where is the deepest spot in Birch Lake and how deep is it?

2013 BLYC Calendar

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!

2013 Boat Parade
Disney is the theme for the 4th of July boat parade for 2013
The time has come again to start thinking about the 4th of July boat

The Birch Barker is always soliciting and accepting materials for publication. Please E-mail your materials to sailorphil@philvital.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 —

parade on Birch Lake

The Birch Lake Disney parade is scheduled to take place on Saturday, July 6th at 2 pm.

The activities will commence from Dick Bender's pier on the south side.

So get your creative juices going and let's have the best boat parade right here on beautiful Birch Lake.

Stay tuned for further details in upcoming issues of the Birch Barker

~ **Linda Curtis & Sue Waddle**

Safety Alert: Giant Hogweed

Giant hogweed is an invasive plant currently growing in Northern areas of the country. The primary spread is in the Northwest in Washington and Oregon, and the Northeast in the New England area. In the Midwest, this plant has taken root in Michigan, Illinois and northern Indiana. Giant hogweed is especially dangerous due to the sap coating the entire plant. If the sap makes contact with skin or eyes, and is then exposed to any kind of UV light or moisture, it reacts in a way that inhibits our protection from UV light. What this means is that if an affected area is exposed to sunlight, skin can be severely burned and eyes can be blinded.

Attached to this email is a printable flier provide by the Michigan Department of Agriculture that includes a photo of the plant, examples of the kind of skin damage it can cause, information for how to



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

work safely in the vicinity of the plant, and steps to take in case of exposure.

If you do happen to come across one, DO NOT touch it, but call 1-866 NO EXOTIC (1-866-663-9684). You will be asked for your name, address, phone number, what species you think you have seen, what county it is in and what you have seen. If you call after hours, please leave a message.

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. Refreshments will be provided.

Your Help is Needed!

The Sewer Department & Porter Township need your help! Please do not

Lutz Concrete

SW Michigan's
FLATWORK
experts



We specialize in decorative
Concrete Stamping
Colored Concrete
Concrete Staining



17050 M-86 — Three Rivers, MI

Ph: (269) 279-7973

Fax: (269) 279-0133

E-mail: mmtlconcrete@aol.com

— Birch Lake Notes —



Yay!! It's Spring!! Time to get ready for Mosquito invasions. ;-) Here's an easy & pleasant repellent recipe you can make at home:

Combine in a 16 oz bottle:
 15 drops lavender oil
 3-4 Tbsp of vanilla extract
 1/4 Cup lemon juice.
 Fill bottle with water.
 Shake.

Ready to use. Make some extra to gift to your neighbors, family & friends. (Trust me.. it'll be appreciated!)

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

Online content

The printed Birch Barker is online this season, ... go to www.philvitale.com and follow the links.

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

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.



I tell all my patients this at physical therapy! Homemade Ice packs: 1 part rubbing alcohol to 3 parts water, gets really cold, but never hardens so you can manipulate it. every athlete (or mom) should pin this!

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 and board of the Birch Lake Yacht Club.

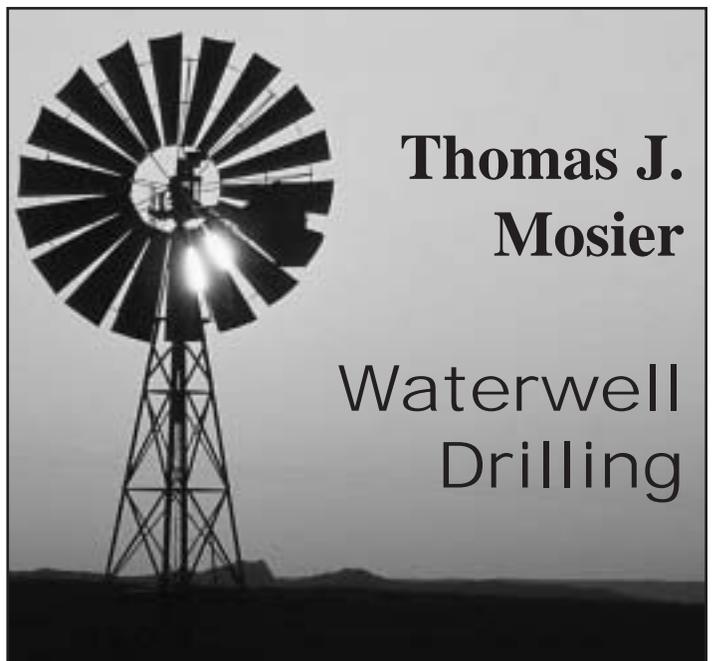
Barker Deadlines

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 29 issue is Tuesday, June 25) ... thanks.



**Ten Years of Excellence,
 Two Years as a Top 100 Dealer.**

51305 State Road 19
 Elkhart, IN 46514
 574-264-2874
wakesidemarine.com



**Thomas J.
 Mosier**

**Waterwell
 Drilling**

5" Water Wells

Repair & Service
 Most Water Pumps

Promise of Quality

M-60 E
 Cassopolis

Office: 269-445-3246
 Cell: 269-580-3246
 Fax: 269-445-0008



HOMEMADE MOSQUITO TRAP:

ITEMS NEEDED:

- 200 ml water
- 50 grams of brown sugar
- 1 gram of yeast
- 2-liter plastic bottle

HOW:

1. Cut the plastic bottle in half.
2. Mix brown sugar with hot water. Let cool. When cold, pour in the bottom half of the bottle.
3. Add the yeast. No need to mix. It creates carbon dioxide, which attracts mosquitoes.
4. Place the funnel part, upside down, into the other half of the bottle, taping them together if desired.
5. Wrap the bottle with something black, leaving the top uncovered, and place it outside in an area away from your normal gathering area. (Mosquitoes are also drawn to the color black.)

Change the solution every 2 weeks for continuous control.

Open 7 days a week

Moomba
Wakeboard Boats



SUPRA
2013 BEYOND BETTER



Avalon
Catalina

Luxury Pontoon





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

1-888-996-BOAT

We rent Pontoon Boats
Service to most area lakes!

WWW.APOLLOMARINE.NET



VOTED NILES
BUSINESS OF
THE YEAR!

Talk With A Live Person

ADVANTAGE PLUMBING INC.

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

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

Top 10 Reasons to Choose ADVANTAGE PLUMBING

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



After Hours
Emergency
Service

 Major Credit Cards Accepted



2400 N 5th ● Niles, MI
 269-687-7192 Niles, MI
 866-751-1470 Toll Free

www.advantageplumbinginc.net

— Water Quality —

Eurasian Milfoil treated

Eurasian Milfoil is an aggressive, tall growing exotic aquatic plant from Europe and Asia. It is capable of growing 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 the 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 mam-

als. It readily regenerated 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 that 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 2013



Progressive AE surveyed the entire lake for all types of invasive species in late May. Their survey turned up a total of 1- $\frac{1}{4}$ acres of Eurasian Milfoil at two sites, one by the landing and the other at the north end of the east shore. Professional Lake Management has already treated the sites (on Tuesday 6/11/13) and Progressive AE will do a second survey.

This annual program is important in order to keep the Milfoil under control and to detect any other invasive species in the early stages to enable us to better control them. With your continued support we can maintain this vital program, and avoid having to deal with the acres of invasive species that are currently challenging so many other lakes.



\$199,900!!!

**BRIGHT, OPEN, AFFORDABLE
BIRCH LAKE GEM
WITH SPACIOUS LOT**

Let your friends know they can own this beautiful three bedroom, two and a half bath Birch Lake home with lake access for the amazing price of \$199,900! Call for information about this realtor owned home at

574-215-0336.



— Barker kids of the Week —



Cam Petty (north shore) was working the knee board last week. Cam is 8 this summer!

Kid of the Week

The Birch Barker will try to print (and usually does) all photos of kids (of any age), pets and even the occasional bug, swan, duck or other lake critter as long as the photos meet our rigid decency standards. Please email photos to sailorphil@philvitale.com and accompany them with the names and any other identifying or pertinent info ... thanks!

John Luecht, the son of Bill and Bad Patty Luecht (east side) conducts his fellow students in the Danville High School Wind Ensemble in the performance of his original composition, "American Reunion." This photo and a story about John appeared recently (on the front page) in the family's hometown newspaper in Danville, IN. The story is at: <http://flyergroup.com/local/x1076952545/Autistic-teen-finds-voice-in-music#sthash.1URrz9H8>



Serving Michigan and Indiana



*Waterfront
Specialist!*

SusieTucker.com

susie@susietucker.com 574-320-6697



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



— New Kids on the Lake —

Meet Bob & Kelli Bienz

by KYLE BERNACIAK

Bob and Kelli Bienz, along with their two young sons Braden and Brody, are some of Birch Lake's newest faces. In the lake tradition of providing unrelenting hospitality and rich camaraderie, it is an honor to introduce the Bienz family to my fellow lakers. So, please stop by their pier or give a friendly wave on the road next time you run into one of them. We are very excited to have you as our neighbors.

Here's a little more about them:

Q: How did you learn about the lake/ how did you come across your recently purchased land?

A: A friend that lived on Kinsey St. (Ryan Gableman) mentioned an open lot for sale so we jumped on it knowing we eventually wanted to build our next house. There were a lot of people interested in the lot, but luckily we won the

bid and purchased the lot in 2008.

We couldn't start building until we sold our first house (Diamond Lake area) and that didn't happen until the fall of 2009, so we started building December 2009. Bob owns his own construction business, (Diamond Construction) and he built our entire house. We moved in Memorial Day Weekend 2010.

Q: What was your first impression of the lake?

A: We love that this lake is a community oriented place, everyone is so friendly and it is just a nice place to live. We love having lake access as well because my husband likes to fish and we like to go out on our pontoon and enjoy the summers on water. The lake is so refreshing and so relaxing. Our 2 little boys (Braden - 4, Brody - 2) like to swim at the pier as well. We also like living up on the hill on Kinsey St. because our

view is amazing, overlooking the lake, and the traffic is minimal which is nice.

Q: Have the neighbors and fellow lakers been friendly and made your move to the lake inviting and smooth?

A: Everyone is so friendly, whether you are driving by or taking a walk around the lake. We love living in this area. Our neighbors up on Kinsey St. have been more than welcoming and we really enjoy all of them.

Q: What is your favorite lake activity?

A: Bob likes to fish, whether in the summer or in the winter, but we also enjoy hanging out at the lake, going for pontoon rides, swimming down at the pier, or even just taking a golf cart ride around the lake.

If anyone knows of new faces on the lake and needs help introducing them to neighbors, feel free to email me at kyle.bernaciak@hope.edu or put a note in my mailbox (cottage #157).

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

<http://birchlakeblog.wordpress.com/>

Birch Blog



BIRCH BARKER FUNNIES



PONDERISMS (some things to think about)
 I used to eat a lot of natural foods until I learned that most people die of natural causes.
 There are two kinds of pedestrians . . . The quick and the dead.
 Life is sexually transmitted.

**CHIMNEY SWIFT
CHIMNEY SWEEPS**

RON COLBORN

58550 Eller Drive
Osceola, IN 46561
Ph: (574) 674-5257
Cell: (574) 514-4831

Satori
Salon & Spa

Certified Organic - Experience the "Natural" Difference!

Full Service Hair Salon 269.244.5510
 Massage - Facials - Waxing
 Manicure - Pedicure
 Group Spa Parties - Gift Cards

11920 McKinley St
Jones, Michigan 49061

www.SatoriSalonandSpa.com



Fleet Captain's Corner



Sailing Birch Lake

Another fine Sunday morning sailing on our wonderful waters. Winds were from 5 to 12 mph, depending on where we were along the course.

The winds were typical, one minute coming from one direction, the next minute another, and the speed of the winds mimicked the direction.

As always I want to thank our committee boat participants, Bill and "Bad Patty" Luecht and my wife Amy for their time starting the races and compiling race results! I would also like to thank Jeff Smitley and Harold Cramner from setting the marks and course each week, they make all this possible.

If anyone out there has an MC or a Sunfish and would like to come out for a little Sunday fun, you are more than welcome to join us — once you try it you will be hooked! Just a reminder, all of us started with our first race!

Again, if anyone would like to help with the committee boat, please con-

tact "Bad Patty" or myself, for a great Sunday morning adventure!!

Thanks, Fleet Captain Mike
~Fleet Captain "Mike"

COMMITTEE BOAT:
June Races
June 23 — OPEN
June 30 — Bad Patty

4th of July Regatta
(these dates may change due to the Pancake Breakfast. Please watch for updates.)

July 6 — OPEN
July 7 — OPEN

July Races
14 — Bad Patty
21 — OPEN
28 — OPEN
August Races

4 — Bad Patty
11 — OPEN
18 — Amber and Chas
25 — OPEN

We need volunteers to help with the Committee boat!

To sign up to do (or help with) the Committee Boat for Sunday sailing, contact Mike Lutz via email at: mmtlconcrete@aol.com or call him at 476-2843.

Labor Day Regatta
August 31 — OPEN
Sept. 1 — Bad Patty
Sept. 2 — OPEN



2013 BLYC Sailing Season Results

Race	4	29	40	Total	Point
Date	16-Jun	16-Jun	16-Jun	Points	Average
MC Scow					
Scott Troeger #1489	1	2	3	4565	1522
Bob King #1199	3	3	4	4257	1419
Jeff Smitley #2002	2	1	2	9138	1523
Harold Cranmer #1991/2412				4340	1447
Phil Vitale #500	5	4	1	8599	1433
Gib Eberhart #916	4	5	5	6926	1385
Bill Luecht #1579	-1	-1	-1	8591	1432
Sunfish					
Rick Russwurm (Green/Blue)	1	1	1	4800	1600
Sandy Vitale (White)	5	5	2	8755	1459
Chris Spratt (Blue/Green)	2	4	3	8666	1444
Stewart Spratt				4569	1523
Mike Lutz (Blue/Red/Yellow)	4	3	5	8222	1370
Peter Soldoto				4034	1345
Bill Butler	3	2	4	8009	1335

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.
 -1 - indicates Committee Boat participation

Stu's Star Stuff

There You Have It

The Milky Way galaxy is most significant to humans because it is home sweet home. But when it comes down to it, our galaxy is a typical barred spiral, much like billions of other galaxies in the universe. Let's take a look at the Milky Way and then we'll be done.

A glance up at the night sky reveals a broad swath of light. Described by the ancients as a river, as milk, and as a path, among other things, the band has been visible in the heavens since Earth first formed. In reality, this intriguing line of light is the center of our galaxy, as seen from one of its outer arms.

As previously mentioned, the Milky Way is a barred spiral galaxy, and about 100,000 light-years across. If you could look down on it from the top, you would see a central bulge surrounded by four large spiral arms that wrap around it. (Cultural aside...In space, or in the universe, is there a top or bottom or up or down?) Spiral galaxies make up about two-thirds of the galaxies in the universe.

The Milky Way does not sit still, but is constantly rotating. As such, the arms are moving through space. Our sun and solar system travel with them. The solar system travels through space with the rest of our portion of the galaxy at an average speed of 515,000 miles per hour, or around

15 miles per second. Even at this rapid speed, the solar system would take about 230 million years to travel all the way around the Milky Way.

Not only is the Milky Way spinning, it is also moving through the universe. Despite how empty space might appear in the movies, it is filled with dust and gas and other galaxies. The massive collections of stars are constantly crashing into one another, and the Milky Way is not immune.

In about four billion years, the Milky Way will collide, as I gratuitously mentioned last week, with its nearest neighbor, the Andromeda Galaxy. The Andromeda Galaxy is obviously not the most careful of drivers. It shows signs of having already crashed into another galaxy in the past. The two of us are rushing towards each other at about 70 miles per second. When we collide, we will provide a fresh influx of material that will kick off star formation anew.

As late as the 1920s, astronomers thought all of the stars in the universe were contained inside of the Milky Way. It wasn't until Edwin Hubble discovered a special star known as a Cepheid variable, which allowed him to precisely measure distances, that astronomers realized that the fuzzy patches once classified as nebula were actually separate galaxies.

When you look up to find the Big

The Moon for June 15

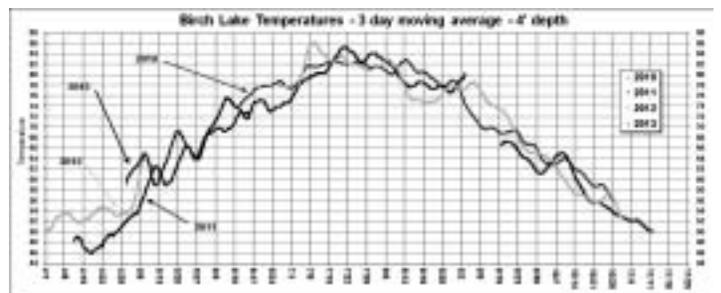
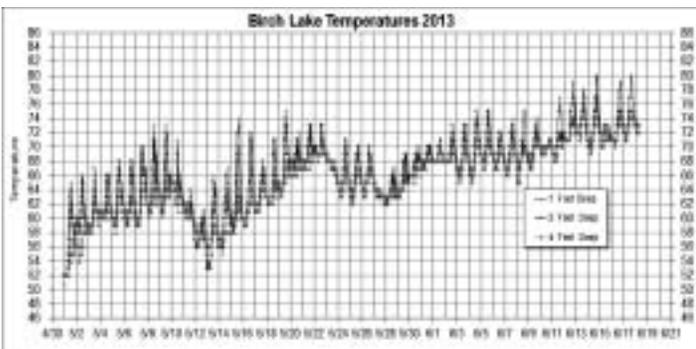
(At Midnight, US Central time, as viewed from the Northern Hemisphere)
Illuminated Fraction: 0.999
0.2 days until full moon



Sunrise: 6:09am
Sunset: 9:23pm
Moonrise: 9:34pm
Moonset: 6:27am
Full Moon: 7:33am
Day length: 15h 14m

Dipper, the Tea Pot, Leo the Lion, Orion or any of the other familiar constellations we see from the lake you are looking at a part of our home galaxy. The Milky Way contains over 200 billion stars, and enough dust and gas to make billions more.

Sorry for the mix-up last week. Look up and see the show. It'll go on without me. Same price.



Water Temperature charts provided by Steve Quinlan (west side)



KB Village Express

M60
CASSOPOLIS
269-445-2754

We have MARINE gas
91 Octane — No Ethanol!

Recommended for all 2- and 4-stroke engines



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



Hunting, Fishing licenses, bait available

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

20¢ off per gallon with
Touch-Free Car Wash



BLYC 53rd ANNUAL MENS GOLF OUTING (4-MAN FLORIDA SCRAMBLE)

**JULY 26TH 2013 - 70\$ PER MAN
SAUGANASH GOLF CLUB**

61270 Lutz Rd, Three Rivers, MI - Shotgun start at Noon; Dinner at BLYC at 6 pm
MUST HAVE REGISTRATIONS BY JULY 8, 2013

Additional Information

- * team prizes and contests
- * dinner only, \$28 per person
- * dinner includes 10oz. prime rib, side salads, corn on the cob.
- * lunch **not** included but the club has complete restaurant and beverage service available.
- * prizes awarded during dinner.

The mens' and ladies' outings are looking for donations of door prizes. If you have access to logo merchandise that could be donated to one or both, please contact Bill Holleman at wildbillh24@aol.com or Chas Grundy at chas.grundy@gmail.com for Men's Outing or Bad Patty Luecht at pgalloway4@yahoo.com for Ladies' Outing

Last year we had 60 golfers participate. I'm sure there are more golfers out there..

- * **Send entries to** Bill Holleman or Chas Grundy 63258 Kinsey St. Vandalia Michigan 49095 or Phil Vitale 63174 Birch Road, Vandalia, Michigan 49095

2013 BLYC Men's Golf Foursome Information

Team Captain:

Please Print Players names:

Total Enclosed \$ _____

*checks should be made out to BLYC



Not just a will. A way.

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

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

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

Right here for you.



TUESLEY · HALL · KONOPA
attorneys

UNDERSTANDING. INSIGHTFUL. EFFECTIVE.

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

YOUR HOROSCOPE

ARIES — (Mar. 21-April 20) — Don't make excuses. You will have problems with coworkers if you are too extreme about doing things perfectly. Spend time with youngsters this week. Lack of funds may add stress to your already uncertain situation. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

TAURUS — (Apr. 21-May 21) — Try not to upset others with your plans. Be careful not to take on other people's problems. You may find yourself in a financial bind. You will communicate easily and should be able to accomplish all that you set out to do. Don't make accusations unless you are completely sure that you are correct. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

GEMINI — (May 22-June 21) — New emotional connections can be made through business contacts. Don't go out of your way, and don't let these unexpected guests cost you money. Don't hesitate to look for alternatives that will enable you to raise the kind of donations you need to do the job right. A better diet, exercise, or a change to a relaxed atmosphere could be ways to soothe your nerves. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

CANCER — (June 22-July 22) — Fitness or weight loss programs will help your self esteem. Unexpected changes in friendships could occur. You might not be as reserved on an emotional level as you'd like. You can sell your ideas to those who have the money to back them. Your lucky day this week will be Monday.

LEO — (July 23-Aug 22) — You may need the space, but you need the extra cash more. This will not be the day to have minor surgery. You will have the discipline to make changes you feel are necessary. Channel your energy into projects that will enhance your home. Your lucky day this week will be Tuesday.

VIRGO — (Aug. 23-Sept. 23) — Someone you care about may not be too well. Residential moves will also be advantageous for all concerned. Try to do things with children that will enable you to bond closer to them. Your sensitivity toward those you love will capture their hearts. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

LIBRA — (Sept. 24-Oct. 23) — Equilibrium in your romantic life is likely if you treat your partner well. You need to clear up some important personal documents before the end of the year. Try to keep a low profile. Compromise will be necessary. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

SCORPIO — (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Keep your mind on your work and stay away from situations that could ruin your reputation. Difficulties with females you live with could cause emotional stress. Travel will promote new romantic encounters and additional cultural knowledge. You may be sensitive about friends and their situations. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.

SAGITTARIUS — (Nov. 23 -Dec. 21) — Spend some time with the one you love. Pleasure trips will be satisfying. You will be too quick to point your finger at your mate. Keep calm. Someone around you is bouncing off the walls. Look into ways to make your home more comfortable. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

CAPRICORN — (Dec 22-Jan. 20) — Family trips or projects should be on your mind. Try not to take everything so seriously. Time spent with family, children, or good friends will be regenerating and positive. Join a club to work off that excess energy; but consider ways of doing that without spending the money. Your lucky day this week will be Wednesday.

AQUARIUS — (Jan. 21 -Feb. 19) — Someone may be trying to take advantage of you. Interaction with colleagues will only be upsetting. Major moves will be emotional and not necessarily to your benefit. Opportunities for romance will develop through activities with large groups. Your lucky day this week will be Sunday.

PISCES — (Feb. 20-Mar. 20) — Any intimate relationships with colleagues will lead to gossip that could easily affect your position. Make residential changes that will lift your spirits. You could be quite erratic regarding your personal relationship. Opportunities to meet new lovers will evolve through your interaction with groups or fundraising functions. Your lucky day this week will be Thursday.



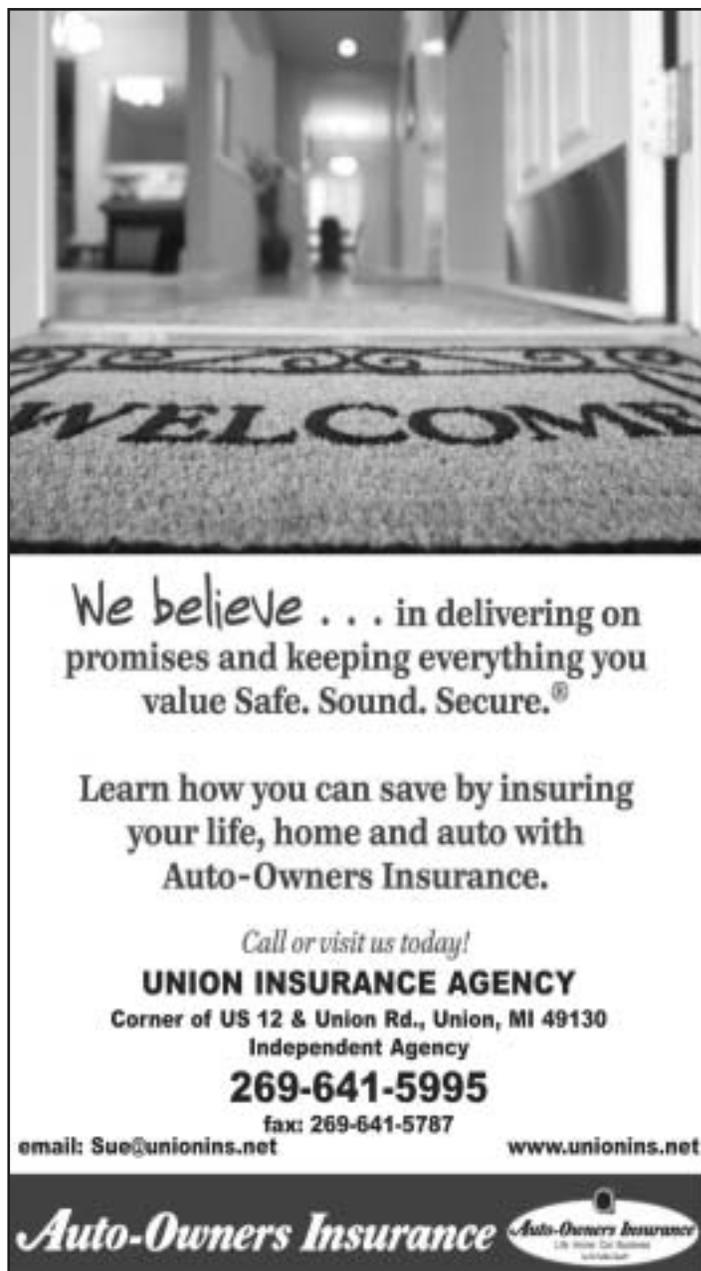
MH
McGann Hay
FUNERALS • CREMATIONS • GATHERINGS
SINCE 1943

New Granger Chapel

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

574-232-1411
www.mcgannhay.com

*"The perfect location between
Michigan and Indiana"*



*We believe . . . in delivering on
promises and keeping everything you
value Safe. Sound. Secure.®*

**Learn how you can save by insuring
your life, home and auto with
Auto-Owners Insurance.**

Call or visit us today!

UNION INSURANCE AGENCY
Corner of US 12 & Union Rd., Union, MI 49130
Independent Agency
269-641-5995
fax: 269-641-5787

email: Sue@unionins.net www.unionins.net

Auto-Owners Insurance 



~Birch Lake Recipes~

Crock Pot Beer Chicken



INGREDIENTS

- 2 lbs skinless, boneless chicken breasts (I used 8 breasts, 4oz ea)
- 1 bottle or can of your favorite beer (I used Guinness)
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 tsp garlic powder
- 1 tbsp dried oregano
- 1/2 tsp black pepper

INSTRUCTIONS

Place all ingredients in the crock pot, and cook on high for 4-5 hrs, or low for 6-8 hrs.

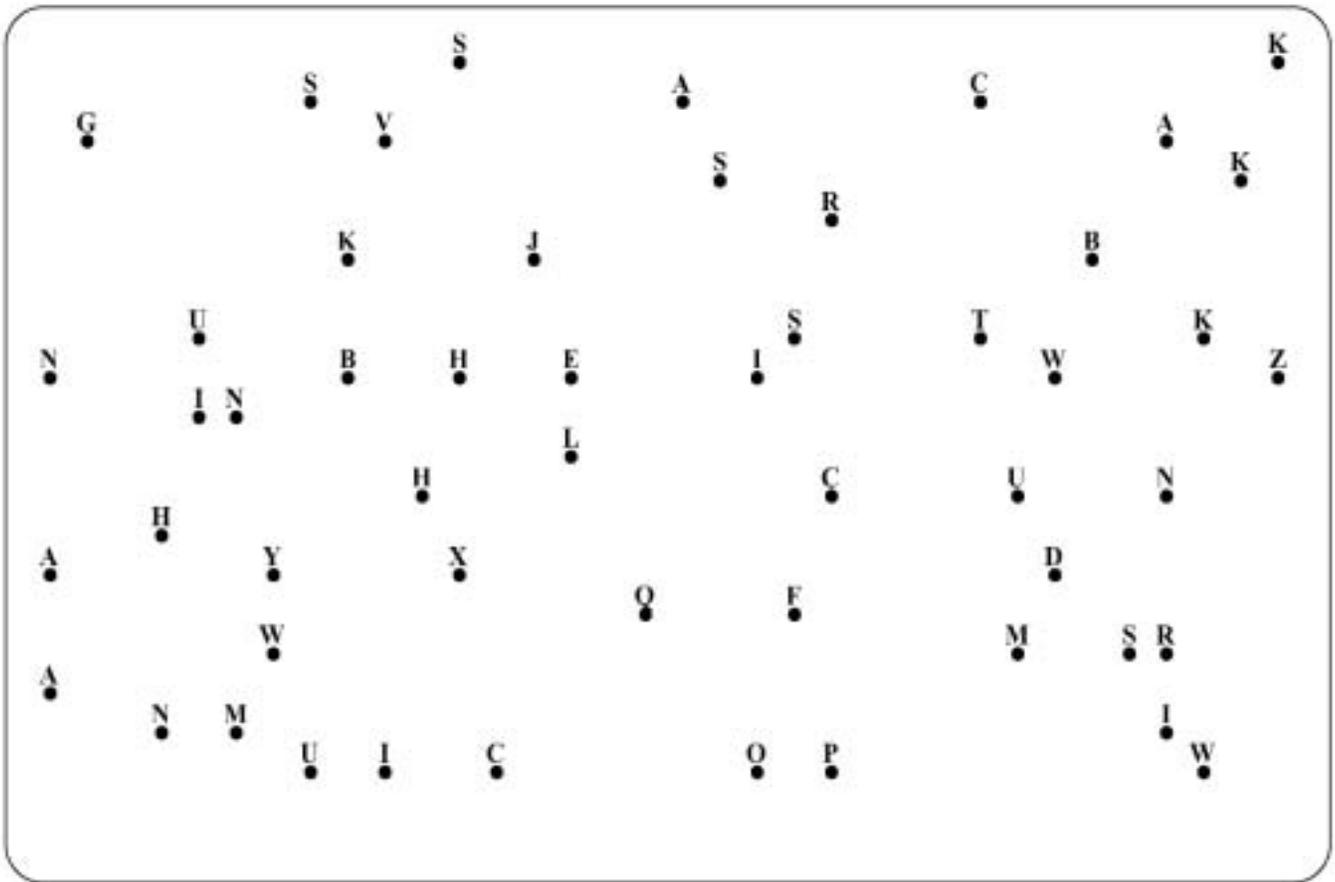
Feel free to change out the spices and herbs and use whatever you'd like.

Preparation time: 5 minute(s)

—BIRCH LAKE WORDSEARCH PUZZLE—

Connect the dots to form words.
Some letters will NOT be used.

CHIPMUNKS RUN	DUCK BIRCH	BOAT SNAKE	SWIM SWAN	FISH WALK
------------------	---------------	---------------	--------------	--------------



Welcome to Jaywalker's

Whether it's a formal dinner or simply hanging out with friends, we make it our mission to provide our customers with a great dining experience at an affordable price. Stop in anytime, or give us a call to make reservations.

Daily
Specials
Happy Hour
Tues-Fri



Closed
Mondays
Call for
reservations

Conveniently located close to Birch Lake!
10188 US 12, Mottville
on the beautiful St. Joseph River
(269) 483-2305

DIAMOND CONSTRUCTION

No Job Too Large or Too Small!



All Types of Remodeling
* New Home Construction *
Restoration

Licensed & Insured Free Estimates

Bob Bienz 269-759-4010
63366 Kinsey St., Vandalia, MI
email: diamondconstr@yahoo.com

Camp Tannadoonah

Princess T joins us ...

If you get your Barker before 7 pm Friday, come on out for our end-of-the-week camp fire down at the lake! Princess Tannadoonah will be paddling in to light the first Council Fire of the season down at the waterfront.

We had an adventurous first week with 75 campers. The theme was All Star Sports Week, so on Sunday evening we had a Soccer tournament. The counselors decorated the dining hall with goal posts, chalk lines on the floor and a soccer goal.

Monday night was cookout — and we got all our cooking done just in time for the surprise thunderstorm that rolled in around 8 pm!

Tuesday night we had a series of different sporting competitions — a tug of war, relay races, a basketball tournament, and a gaga ball tournament.

Wednesday night we played Capture the Flag, which is always a camper favorite.

The first week is always an adventure, as we work out all the kinks and figure everything out. We had a bit of a rough start to the week, with some boat problems, our camp health software not working properly and some plumbing

and electrical problems. But everything sorted itself out and we were able to get everything up and running. Many thanks to Jim Bolinger, Ron Whiteman, and Mike Lutz for helping fix things and loaning us equipment!!!

We've also had two volunteers from the lake who have been working on landscaping up at camp — planting flowers, weeding the flower beds, and taking care of the gardens. Thank you to Judy Olson and Martha Ponsler for all their help!

If you have a chance to come up to camp sometime, check out the new signs at the Murphy Sports Complex, near the waterfront stairs, and in the flower bed by the dining hall. Mr. Tony Laskowski arranged to have them routed and then painted and installed them, and they look awesome. We're also in the process of getting a new sign made for the end of the camp driveway!

Next week we have another medium-sized group, with 76 campers registered so far. The theme is Hollywood Week, and we have lots of fun stuff planned. We are offering a new program this year, called Glee! It's a musical theater class, led by Brittany Gableman

and Claudia Phipps. We also have a new CSI Adventure program next week, with many mysteries to be solved.

Our total numbers for the summer are trending a bit behind last year now. We have a total of 526 registered campers, which about 45 behind this date last year. The past two weeks have been very slow for registrations this year, and they were very busy last year. We ended the summer last year at 706, and are shooting for a similar number this year, so we have some work to do! Please keep recruiting your camp-age friends and family!

Don't forget to save the date for our annual Hog Roast, taking place on July 27th up at Camp! There's lots of great food, live music, and awesome company. This year we hired a camp photographer to make sure we get great shots of every activity each week. She's doing an amazing job so far! Check out the camp pictures online at <http://flickr.com/photos/tannadoonah>. Miss Laura posts new photos daily.

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



Southwest Michigan's Premier Dock & Lift Headquarters



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

Serving you for over 20 years

12097 M-60 • Jones, MI
269.244.1446
e-mail: info@odonnellsdocks.com



For an on-line quote, go to:

www.odonnellsdocks.com

Authorized dealer for



CAMP TANNADOONAH
BIRCH LAKE

<http://tannadoonah.org>

Eagle Lake Marine

SALES * SERVICE * STORAGE

SanPan, Aqua Patio, Sweetwater Pontoon,
Polar Kraft Aluminum Fishing Boats,
Hurricane Deck Boats, Honda Outboards



eaglelakemarine.com
269-699-5103
south side of Eagle Lake, Edwardsburg, MI

2013 Birch Lake Yacht Club officers and directors

2012 BLYC Officers

Chas Grundy Comm (H).....476-7062
Chas.grundy@gmail.com

Patty Luecht (E).....476-2615
Pgalloway4@yahoo.com

Holly Troeger Treasurer (E).....476-9898
amvine@aol.com

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

Mike Lutz Fleet Captain (N)476-2843
mmtlconcrete@aol.com

Steve Quinlan (W).....476-8802
stevequinlan2@yahoo.com

Vicki Rogers (C)476-8802
tvrogers@frontier.com

Rick Russwurm (N).....476-2407
paramountp@aol.com

Scott Troeger (E)476-9898
scott.troeger@btlaw.com

Denise Smitley (W)476-9000
dsmitley@industrial-pack.com

PJ Vandewalle (H).....476-7086
pjvandewalle@gmail.com

2012 BLYC Directors

Bob Baucus (N).....476-2863
rebauc@aol.com

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

Karen Brovold (W)476-8862
karenbrovold@yahoo.com

Harold Cranmer (W).....476-2170
dhcranmer@yahoo.com

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

Celia Fallon (E)476-1467
celia.fallon@gmail.com

Fred Freihofer (N).....476-9823
cdfreihofer@aol.com

Pam Mullin (N).....476-1080
Clasegirl1@comcast.net

Alan Van Huffel (S).....269-244-3487
abec3@aol.com

Phil Vitale (E).....476-1680
sailorphil@philvitale.com

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

NON-DIRECTOR ATTENDEES:

Jim Bollinger BLYC Homeowners' Association
Chairman (E).....476-9737
debo36@comcast.net

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

Bob Waddle (E)476-2293
sparkybob220@comcast.net

Handyman Repairs

- Roof to basement - inside and out
- Floors, doors, stairways, ceilings and windows
- Siding, roofing, driveways and sprinklers
- Decks and fences; fascia and soffits
- Plumbing, electrical, heating and A/C
- Piers and Seawalls

Home Maintenance

- Painting - interior and exterior
- Snow removal - sidewalks, driveways & roofs
- Gutters and chimney cleaning & repair
- We do windows
- Power washing, insulation and weatherproofing

Lawn Care

- Spring and fall yard clean up
- Tree and shrub trimming
- Rototill your garden
- Mowing and Trimming
- Fertilizing

Property Management

- Reliable caretaker
- Fulfills all absentee homeowner's needs
- Periodically checks your property
- Provides second home peace of mind
- Call for all lake property requirements



Dave's Residential Services
(269) 476-2797; Wireless (269) 362-0724
davehardisty@comcast.net

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

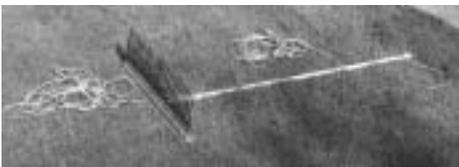
FOR SALE



1976 Cadillac Eldorado convertible (Parade car), Firethorn red, red leather interior, white top (with boot), one owner, <79,000 original miles, "straight" body, never wrecked, always stored indoors, clean title, call 476-2128 to arrange a showing and / or test drive. Serious enquiries only please.

WOODEN PIER ... approx. 60' long with 16' wide deck at end for lounging the day away! All upright pieces included as well as aluminum step ladder for attaching to pier. \$800 OBO. Call Vanessa, 476-8885 or 630-988-2225

BEACHCOMBER LAKE RAKE. Great for removing those pesky weeds from your water-front. \$60 OBO. 574-215-3339.



E-Z GO GAS CART, 2003, lift kit, nice wheels and tires, lights, windshield/mirror, utility bed on back, trailer hitch and Blaupunkt stereo with CD player. Just tuned up, runs great. \$3,500.00 Bob Waddle 269-365-7696

Do you know anyone who would like to be on Birch in a completely renovated, spacious, 3 bed, 2.5 bath home with lake access for \$199,000? Call 574-215-0336.

Weber charcoal grill, bag of charcoal and starter. \$20 call Sarah 476-7068.

FOR RENT

BIRCH LAKE COTTAGE FOR RENT. Located on the west side of Birch Lake, just off Walnut Road. Weekly rental - \$650. Times: In Sunday 10 a.m. Out the following Saturday by 12 (noon). To reserve your week call 269-476-2744

For Rent: **CUTE COTTAGE FOR RENT.** 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, attractive and clean. Great view of the lake from large, landscaped deck and multiple windows. Call to reserve your week. 574-386-8609.

SERVICES OFFERED

Propane Grill Tank Service, \$15 pickup and delivery included. If you run out I have spare tanks

that I can loan to you. Bill Butler 574-596-1343, or 269-476-9905.

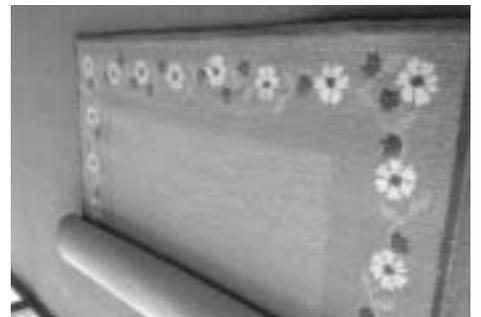
WANTED

Wanted: **Two twin mattresses and box springs**, in good condition. For Camp T. Call Amber at 476-7144.

RENTALS WANTED: Due to Brittany Gableman's wedding, we are looking for several cottages to rent for the two nights of August 2nd and 3rd. Call 574-596-2154. Thank you! Claudia and Dennis Phipps

FREE

Free, good condition 8x10 pottery barn **wool rug**. Call Sarah 476-7068



Want a Barker classified? Free for BLYC Members, \$5 for others: email to sailorphil@philvital.com



BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB



2013 Dues, Contribution & Donation Form

SUPPORT THE BLYC; SUPPORT THE BIRCH LAKE COMMUNITY!

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

TOTAL CONTRIBUTION:

\$ _____ - BLYC Associate Member Dues

(\$10 / year)

\$ _____

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

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

Name _____

\$ _____ - Building Improvement Fund

\$ _____ - Fireworks Fund

Address _____

\$ _____ - Water Quality Program

\$ _____ - Milfoil/Loosestrife

Eradication Program

\$ _____ - Safety Committee

\$ _____ - Other non-party related expenses

\$ _____ - BLYC Roof Fund (NEW)

Make checks payable to
BLYC
c/o Holly Troeger
1516 Ash Dr. East
Elkhart, IN 46514

PRE-OWNED
SALES

**BOATS, MOTORS,
LIFTS, PWCS**

Putting the
SERVICE

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

Service Above and Beyond



**Summer
Trailer
Storage**

**Indoor
Winter
Boat
Storage**

Boat Butler llc

Buy A Boat — Sell Your Boat

We Buy & Sell Boats, Personal Watercraft & Boat Lifts

Open 7 days a week "by appointment" for your convenience

Pre-Owned Specialist

**Specializing in pre-owned Boats, Motors,
Lifts and Personal Watercraft**

to answer all of your boating needs!

269-476-2222

www.boatbutlermarine.com

We've Got You Covered!



SUMMER'S HERE!
CALL US TODAY!

- Retractable Awnings for Deck & Patios
- Roll Curtains for Screened Porches
- Boat Covers and Tops
- Canvas Repair
- Aluminum Awnings



SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATION



**Call us for a free
at-home
demonstration!**

*Locally owned
and operated
since 1985*



12291 Bidelman Road • Three Rivers at Big Pleasant Lake

269 244-5307
www.sunandsshadeawning.com