

The weekend
Of

July 9
2016

Birch Barker

The official summer publication of the
B i r c h L a k e Y a c h t C l u b



Sorry Big Bird! Lakers: if you saw a pontoon toodling in the shallows on Sunday night with a bright light, well, it was just us on our annual fish-turtle-heron spotting jaunt. Apologies about the light (especially to the young heron who was trying for a late night snack and, based on the croaking, was mightily miffed).

photo by CHUCK HORN

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

What a great Fourth of July weekend we had here at Birch Lake! The weather cooperated and all of our scheduled activities took place as planned. It wasn't the warmest Fourth of July, but all things considered, it wasn't too bad!

Congratulations to Duffy and Sue DuFour for being chosen as the Grand Marshals for this year's boat parade! Thanks to all of the musical artists (and their boats) who took time out of their busy schedules to perform at Birch Lake! It was a fun parade!

The fireworks went off without a hitch, and I was one very thankful Commodore! Not knowing how the new location would work caused a little bit of nervousness, but all my fears were put to rest as soon as the first shell went up. A special thanks goes to RKM Fireworks for coming out last fall to do a test shoot and then using the feedback to make adjustments to the show. They were able to get the shells high enough and somehow directed them over the water so that we could still get that beautiful

reflection on the surface. From the feedback I have received so far, it sounds as if most people were able to get a good view. An added bonus was the colorful sky as the sun went down resulting in one of the most beautiful sunsets I've seen this summer. It was a good omen!

The rest of the weekend was smooth sailing. The sailors got all of their races in, the pancake breakfast went smoothly, lots of people were out in their boats enjoying the water, and as far as I know, there were no mishaps. All in all, it was a pretty good weekend to be at Birch Lake! Thank you again to Bob and Sue Waddle, Chas Grundy, Sandy and Phil Vitale, and Amy and Mike Lutz for chairing all of the weekend events and to all of those who helped them.

The deadline to get your photos submitted for the 2017 calendar is quickly approaching. Get your photos to Linda Yoshizawa (lindal1008@comcast.net) no later than July 17. It's also time to get your teams together for the golf outings later this month (Ladies' on 7/22 and Men's on 7/29). Check the Barker for more details.

If you are curious about the candidates running for positions in Porter Township, don't miss the Homeowners

2016 Birch Lake Calendar

- July 9Homeowners Association Annual Meeting & Meet the Candidates , 10:30 am
- July 22..... BL Ladies' Golf Outing
- July 29..... Men's Golf Outing
- Aug. 6.....Corn & Sausage Roast)
- Aug. 27BLYC Fall Dinner (at the Yacht Club)

BLYC Board Meetings (9 am)

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

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

Association Annual Meeting this Saturday (July 9). Come to the Yacht Club at 10:30, and you will have a chance to meet the candidates. Hope to see you there! A safe weekend will be a fun weekend! Hope to see you on the water!

~Commodore Sue

Homeowners Association to host Porter Township candidates

The Birch Lake Homeowners Association will have it's annual meeting following the July 9 BLYC Board meeting (at approximately 10:30 am) at the Yacht Club. This year the

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

— Birch Lake Notes —

Homeowners Association has invited the candidates running for officer and trustee position on the Porter Township Board of Trustees. Plan to attend!

Cowen Anniversary

Stop by our place and have coffee and cake 3 to 6 PM Sunday to celebrate our 60th wedding anniversary.

~Peggy and Dick Cowen

Pancake Breakfast

To all of the people who attended and worked at the Pancake Breakfast last weekend, we want to say a big THANK YOU!

Thanks to the expertise of our new sausage maker Andy Karceski, our batter-maker Bob Bender, and our Olympic staff of pancake flippers Mike Lutz and Bill Luecht, we served 440 breakfasts — and raised \$2229 plus additional \$175 of direct donations for Camp T and \$433 for next year's fire-works.

The money raised this year will be donated in the name of Don Harman to replace Dining Hall equipment at the camp.

Our delicious Krusties pancakes were again donated by Lind Harman (thanks Lind!), and thanks to the Fallons for donating the plates.

Thanks are also due to our crack staff of Amy and Mike Lutz, Bad Patty Luecht, Karen Brovold, Mike Machalleck, Tom Rogers, Paul and Celia



Past Commodore Stewart Spratt's still got the skiing skills (try saying that three times fast)! photo by Chuck Horn

Fallon, Bill and Katie Luecht, Sam Hass, Cam Butler, Eric Miller, Karen Curtis Miller, The Birch Lake Babes, and Peter Trybula (the outside pancake flipper) — and thanks to cleanup crew that included Cam Butler and Steve Richards.

Again, thanks to everyone for your participation and support for Camp T - What a wonderful family we have at Birch Lake. Next year don't turn over and go back to sleep, come on up and chow down on the great pancakes!

*-Amy, Mike, Phil & Sandy
"Pancake Breakfast Team"*

Summer Art Show is July 9

Regional and local artists will be

showcased at the Cass Area Artists Summer Show on July 9.

Jewelry artist Darlene Troyer (Birch Lake east side) will be one of several jewelry artists participating in the show. Darlene works with precious metals and fused glass, and has been perfecting techniques that she has learned from master crafts persons and from teaching jewelry classes. She has won numerous awards and her art is currently featured in several Michiana galleries.

Visitors to the show can win free artwork which has been donated by participating artists. Drawings for the free art work will be held throughout the day so that winners can take the artwork

Simply STUNNING

Have you seen the stunning new stamped-concrete compass rose at the Birch Lake Yacht Club?

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— Birch Lake Notes —

with them.

The one-day Cass Area Artist Summer Show is free and located on the outdoor track of the Lowe Center COA at M-60 and Decatur Road in Cassopolis. It will be open from 10 am until 4 pm.

Updates on Birch Lake sailing

Sailors! Send me your cell phone numbers if you want to be included in text alerts and updates on the status of weekly sailing. 317 605 6421.

~Bad Patty

Just sayin'

Contrary to the way it looked in a recent Barker, ad our house was not sold by a realtor but was sold "by owner."

~Blair Garceau

Leave the turtles alone!

My name is Abigail Como-Wolf. Birch lake is my home away from home since I was born and I'm sure many feel the same! Last summer, I had the opportunity to sit with my mother on a beautiful, warm day and hand-make our own turtle float. I remember this clearly because it was my first time a sun bathing spot for our beloved Birch Lake turtles and I was very excited that it turned out so well! The turtles just love having somewhere to rest and enjoy soaking up the sun, again, like we all do! However, I have noticed, especially as of late, many people bringing their kayaks or canoes



Thanks to Pat McGann (east side) for the cool sunset silhouette.

around the shore lines with nets and trying to scoop up the turtles off of the floats. It's very upsetting to see our wildlife disturbed, just to be caught in a net for our entertainment.

I figured I would reach out to the residents of our lake and express my concerns. Hopefully others feel the same and we can start respecting the wildlife together as a community! After all, the lake is here to relax and enjoy the warm

weather, let us leave the turtles to do the same!

~Abigail Como-Wolf, South Shore

Ladies Fun Golf Outing

If any of you ladies have a partial team, or if you have no team, and want to golf, call me and I will do my best to help you find a team or golfers.

~Patty Luecht, 476-2615

BLYC Welcoming Committee

We are ready to rock and roll on our Welcoming Committee. If you know of a new neighbor please contact Vicky Rogers at 269-476-2383, Pam VanHuffel 269-244-3487 and Linda Curtis at 574-361-2629. Thanks.

Online content

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

Printed Birch Barker

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

The Barker welcomes the submission of editorial and advertising materials for publication (at the discretion of the editor). The deadline for submitting



BACK ON TRACK!

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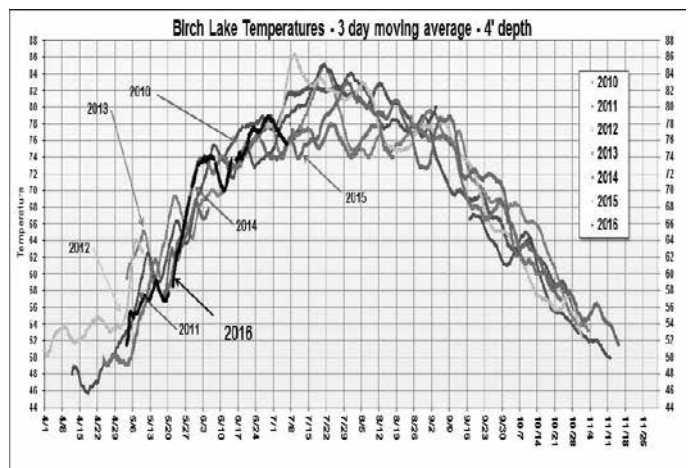
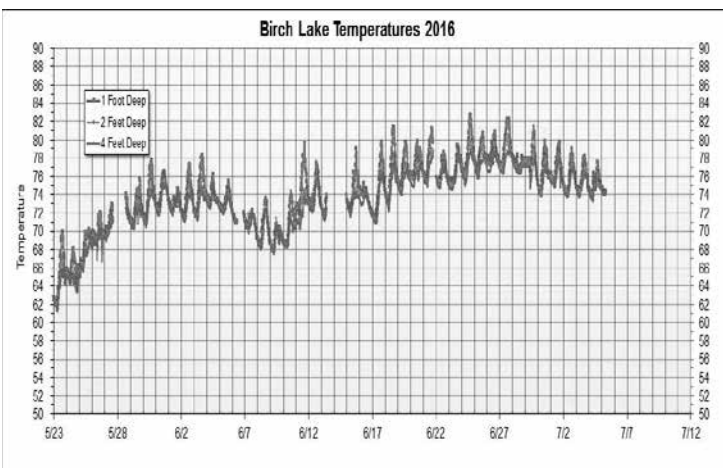
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— Birch Lake Notes —



Birch Lake Water Temperature



Temps provided by Steve Quinlan

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14965 Birch North Shore Dr. 4 beds, 2 baths, Sandy Beach frontage on the North Shore **\$664,900**



14901 Birch North Shore Dr., Newly Remodeled, 3 Bed, 2 bath, 100 Feet on North Shore **\$548,900**

Recently sold Birch Lakes homes



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Contact Paul DeLano:
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Paul@TheLakeLife.com

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

— Birch Lake Notes —

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

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

~PV



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Message sponsored by the BIRCH LAKE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

— Birch Lake Boat Parade —

STUPENDOUS BOAT PARADE

Saturday's gorgeous weather set the stage for our annual parade of decorated boats. All of our entrants found unique ways to represent their favorite performing artists. It was difficult for our judges to choose only one, but this year's "Most Outstanding" entry was the Falk family's beautifully decorated pontoon celebrating the Beach Boys.

Among all of the remaining entries the Groscek's Village People themed pontoon was

deemed "Most Entertaining." The Henderson/Wozny families' entry, Thriller, celebrating Michael Jackson, won for "Best Choreography." The "Most Nostalgic" was the Luecht/McGann entry named Rock and Roll Heaven. The Village People group was revisited by the Ball family boat, winning the "Best Costumes" pick. The Petty/Karceski boat, decorated as The Police, provided the "Best Sound and Light Show." Last, but not least, the Grundy family's entry, Aloha, was thought to be the "Most Tropical"

entry.

This year's Grand Marshal, Duffy and Sue DuFour, were escorted around the lake by Celia and Paul Fallon in their beautiful pontoon boat.

Also, kudos to our four great judges, Ronni and Gus Eshleman, Jan Temple and Tom Kuhn, who deliberated very carefully before making their choices.

And finally, a shout-out to Dick Bender for once again allowing us to use his pier and for his valuable assistance.



IT TAKES A VILLAGE ... Thanks to all of our great Birch Lake neighbors who sent in Boat Parade photos for the Barker ... sorry we couldn't use them all!

FLEET CAPTAIN'S CORNER

Holiday sailing

We completed our first Regatta of the 2016 sailing season on Monday. We completed 3 races, which is the minimum required, with some medium winds around 6 to 10 mph.

Due to light winds and extreme boating activities we had to cancel Saturday and Sunday's sailing. There were 11 sunfish that raced, I don't think I have seen that many out there for a long time!

Thanks to Bad Patty, Good Patti, First Mate Amy, Patty's soon-to-be son-in-law Sam, and everyone else for your participation. I look forward to seeing everyone out there again.

Until next week "Splice the main brace"

~Fleet Captain Mike



2016 BLYC Season Sailing Results

Date4Jul4Jul4JulTotalSeason Races%
 Race91011 Points Average ... Finished ...Finished

MC Scow/Sailor (9 boats)

Scott Troeger #1489	2	2	4	13932	1548	9	100.0%
Jeff Smitley #2002	1	1	2	12099	1512	8	88.9%
Phil Vitale #500	3	5	1	8601	1434	6	66.7%
Harold Cranmer #1991/2550	4	4	3	12487	1387	9	100.0%
Bob King #1199	5	3	7	3896	1299	3	33.3%
Barb Cassady #2435	DNS	DNS	DNS	5186	1297	4	44.4%
Bill Luecht #1579	6	6	6	11601	1289	9	100.0%
Gib Eberhart #916	DNS	DNS	DNS	3833	1278	2	22.2%
Pat McGann #1735	7	7	5	10171	1271	8	88.9%

Sunfish/Sailor (11 boats)

Rick Russwurm (Green/Blue)	1	1	1	12721	1590	8	72.7%
Peter Soldato	5	2	3	14685	1469	10	90.9%
Mike Lutz (Blue/Red/Yellow)	3	4	5	14454	1445	10	90.9%
Sandy Vitale (White)	DNS	DNS	DNS	2888	1444	2	18.2%
Herb Cleveland	4	6	7	15020	1365	11	100.0%
Stewart Spratt	2	8	2	12237	1360	8	72.7%
Katie Luecht	6	5	6	3746	1249	3	27.3%
Bob Niezgodski	10	11	10	13486	1226	11	100.0%
Bill Butler	7	3	9	4780	1195	4	36.4%
Camille Butler	11	10	11	9188	1149	8	72.7%
Greg Cowan	9	9	4	3417	1139	3	27.3%
Brad Davis	8	7	8	3334	1111	3	27.3%
Chris Lintner	DNS	DNS	DNS	0	0	0	0.0%

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

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

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

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

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

SEASON PLACE = total season points/number of races attempted

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SAVE THE DATE; Birch Lake Ladies' FUN Golf Outing

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

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

Lunch following at the BLYC (included in cost)

Each team is encouraged to donate a basket to raffle.

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

Team Members

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

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

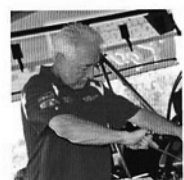
Paid for by the Committees to Elect Cory Marlow, Honna Gableman and Tom Lutz



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



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



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

— Barker Kids of the Week —



Bill and Le King, north side, are kids of the week ... here they are enjoying the July 4th activities at their boat house in this photo by family friend Chuck Horn.



And what a nice photo of Leslie King, north side, chillin' in a lawn chair in another photo by family friend Chuck Horn.



Scott and Neil Troeger enjoyed some pier sittin' ... Photo also by Chuck Horn



Ok, we definitely have a King thing going on ... this is Calvin King with girlfriend Elizabeth. Photo by Chuck Horn

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For Porter Township Supervisor



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Steve Northrup
Ph# 269-476-1275
13562 Harvey Street

I am a lifelong resident of Cass County and my family still resides in this area. I moved to Porter Township with my wife Christine in 2002. I retired after 32 years of service with the Cass County Road Commission and then spent 6 years with Great Lakes Chloride in Michigan Sales.

My two terms as Porter Township Trustee have afforded me the opportunity to address many issues which affected the lives of our residents which included the negotiation of contracts to secure safe and affordable services needed while maintaining a balanced budget.

I created a long-term plan to upgrade all township roads used by our residents. This plan includes directing the dust control, gravel maintenance, and securing cost-effective long-term maintenance for our paved roads.

I have also served as liaison to the SEPSA board and as a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals and have gained extensive knowledge regarding the importance of careful study before making any decisions affecting all township residents.

As a Veteran and life member of the Post #4054 Veterans of Foreign Wars, I promise to uphold and protect those rights and freedoms guaranteed to each of our citizens of Porter Township, State of Michigan, in these United States of America.

- Keep us moving in a **Good Direction.**
- Elect an experienced **Public Servant.**
- Elect a leader you can **TRUST.**

Elect Steve Northrup

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Steve Northrup

— Barker Kids of the Week —



Karen Toth Evans (West side) from Portland, Oregon checked off a swim across the lake as part of her bucket list and birthday . Karen said that she always wanted to do this since being a kid growing up at the lake. Great job Karen we are so proud of you!



Fourth of July morning at the Soldato's (west side) with their eight grandkids: Rocco, Luke, Addie, Guy, Meredith , Catherine, Elise, and Cooper. They traveled to Birch Lake from Lexington , KY; Seattle, WA; and Lisle, IL for this annual family reunion.

KID-OF-THE-WEEK PHOTOS

Send your kid-of-the-week to Birch Barker, 63174 Birch Rd., Vandalia, MI 49095; put them in a ziplock and stick them in the stone mailbox at my home (east side), or email to me at SAILORPHIL@PHILVITALE.COM



Birch Lake (Cove) Home 62746 Woodland Drive

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



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— Barker Kids of the Week —



CAMP 1

Cover kids (east side) enjoying the great pancakes at the camp!

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- * Power washing, insulation and weatherproofing

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- * Rototill our garden
- * Mowing and Trimming
- * Fertilizing

Property Management

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- * Provides second home peace of mind
- * Call for all lake property requirements

FIREWOOD AVAILABLE

— Barker Kids of the Week —



My granddaughter Aley Vitale-Richards caught her first large-mouth bass off neighbor Pat McGann's pier last weekend.



Not to be outdone by brother (grandson) Dominic Vitale-Richards who caught one a couple hours later off the same pier.

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Business
as usual
is seldom
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as usual.



STU'S STAR STUFF



The origins of the solar system

Our sun, the Earth, moon and all the other planets, moons and asteroids, in other words, our solar system, formed about four and a half billion years ago from a nebulous swirling cloud of gas and dust. This nebula started as a big shapeless blob. So how did our solar system end up with all of our planets and moons orbiting in a flat disk?

We've all seen the planetary model of the atom, which is definitely wrong when applied to atoms. But it also kind of suggests that planets might revolve around the sun every which way. So is our solar system somehow special in its flatness? Or is the planetary model of the atom doubly wrong?

Well, our solar system definitely isn't alone. Many galaxies are flat. Saturn's rings are flat. Black hole excretion disks are flat. So why, when there is all of 3D space to fill, does the universe have this preference for flatness?

The answer has to do with two things - collisions and the fact that we live in 3 dimensions. Any time a bunch of objects held together by gravity are zooming and circling around, their individual paths are nearly impossible to predict. And yet, collected together, they have a single total amount that they spin about their center of mass. It may be hard to figure out exactly what direction that rotation is in, but the mathematics implies that there must be some direction in which that cloud, taken as a whole, spins.

Now, in two dimensions, a cloud of particles rotating in a plane is flat by definition. It's in two dimensions. But in three dimensions, even though the rotation of the cloud is given by one

plane, particles can whiz around far up and down from that plane. As the particles bump into each other, all the up and down motion tends to cancel out, its energy lost in crashing and clumping. Yet the whole mass must continue spinning, because in our universe, the total amount of spinning in an isolated system always stays the same. So, over time, through collisions and crashes, the cloud loses its loft and flattens into a roughly two dimensional disk shape, like a solar system or a spiral galaxy.

However, in four spacial dimensions the math works out such that there can be two separate and complimentary planes of rotation, which is both really, really hard for our 3D thinking brains to picture and also means that there is no up and down direction by which particles lose energy by collisions. So a cloud of particles can continue to be just that - a cloud. And thus, only in three dimensions can a nebula or infant galaxy start out

not flat and end up flat. Which is definitely a good thing because we need all that matter to clump together in order for stars and planets to form, and for us to exist.

Crazy stuff. Get out there and check it out. No charge.

~Stu Spratt
Celebrating more than 52 Years at Birch Lake

The Moon for this Saturday

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

Illuminated Fraction: 0.331
1.7 days before first quarter



Sunrise:

ATTENTION

YOUR DOG DID HIS DUTY
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YOUR HOROSCOPE

Aries (March 21-April 19) There's no question that your focus is on home and family. Many of you are doing home repairs, home renovations or tackling home redecorating ideas. Because you are the artisan of the zodiac, you might do fabulous DIY projects. Good news: It looks like the financial assistance and energy from an outside source that you need will help you to make this a reality.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) Your schedule is busy with travel, short trips, meetings, discussions with others, mucho errands and an ambitious To-Do list. Some of you are also reading, writing and studying more than usual. Just accept this and go with the flow. However, please note: You can make money from your words, which is good news for writers, actors, teachers and people in sales.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) Money, money, money! This is where you are focused. Cash flow, earnings, shopping and juggling how to best handle your resources and assets are where it's at for you. You want to feel more in control of your world through what you own. (Not at its mercy!) Ironically, even though you are watching your money, you are also making big purchases.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) It's still all about you with the Sun, Mercury and fair Venus in your sign. Take advantage of these influences and shop for wardrobe treasures because you will be pleased. You're eager to socialize with others, which is a good thing because with Venus in your sign, you are diplomatic and charming. Avoid power struggles with partners and close friends on Thursday.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) Have you noticed lately that you need more patience at home, especially dealing with family? This is because fiery Mars is stirring up things on the home front with visiting guests, renovations, repairs and lots of activity. Naturally, this can create domestic strife, which prompts you to argue about something ridiculous!

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Right now at least five planets are promoting your popularity. This is why you are enjoying good times with friends. It's also why many of you are more involved with clubs, groups and associations. Accept what's happening. Say yes to invitations because everyone wants to be in your presence. You will enjoy the company of younger, artistic people now. This is also a good time for you to share your goals with others to get their feedback.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Not only do people in authority notice you more than usual, they admire you! Obviously, this means this is the best time of the year to ask for what you want, especially from bosses, parents and VIPs. Since you make such a great impression on bosses, some of you will begin a romantic relationship.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Continue to grab every chance to travel because you need to get outta Dodge. You have lots of energy to work and accomplish things; hence you will be productive and tackle big projects with a vengeance! However, if you don't get physical exercise to blow off this pent-up steam, you're just coming on too strong! Easy does it.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) With your ruling planet Jupiter at the top of your chart (this occurs only once in 12 years), you look successful and affluent to others especially bosses and VIPs. This is great because you're hatching big plans! You've got big ideas that you want to put into action, and these big ideas require an influx of money.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Competition with a friend or a group is likely. In fact, this has been something you've been flirting with since the beginning of the year. This week the competition looks favorable; you will do well. However, arguments with partners and close friends on Thursday are likely; and you don't need this. Friendships and partnerships are important to you right now. It's good to acknowledge this.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Your pace at work is busy because you are setting high standards for yourself. You want to accomplish a lot, and you want to do it efficiently. Fortunately, coworkers are supportive. Don't hesitate to ask for help. They admire the fact that you're willing to roll up your sleeves and work at a grassroots level.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) Life continues to offer you romance, parties, vacations, social excursions, fun, sports events and playful times with children. Both casual flirtations and serious relationships are blessed! If you can slip away on a vacation in the next few weeks - please do so because you are hungry for fun and pleasure! Discuss differences later but not on Thursday. Enjoy your good fortune, dear Pisces!

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**PLAY WITH THE HAMSTER, EVERYONE LOSES
THEIR MINDS!**

When I get
a Headache.
I take 2
aspirins and
keep away
from children
just like it
says on the bottle!



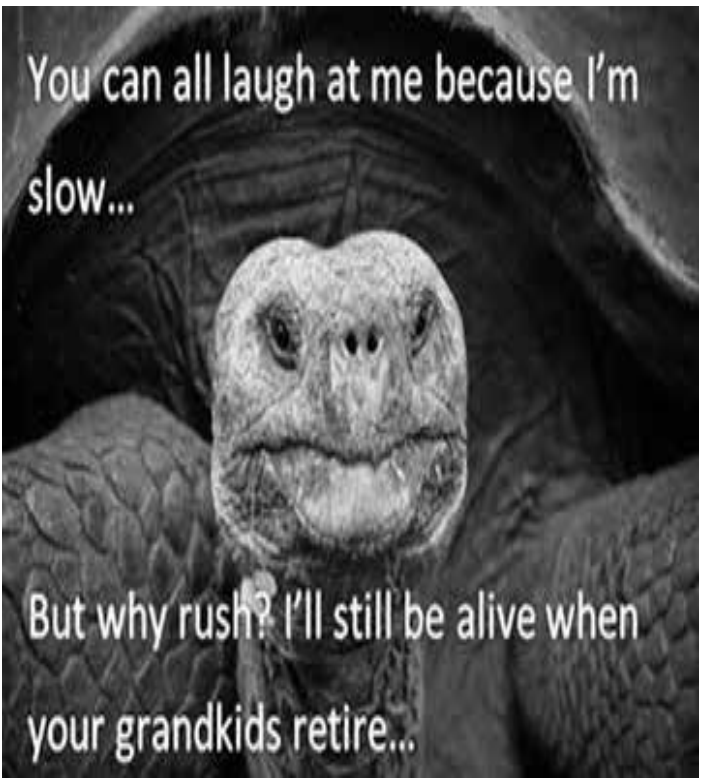
AND THAT SON

IS WHERE BABY JETS COME FROM



3 YEARS IN JAIL

FOR STEALING MY NOSE



You can all laugh at me because I'm
slow...

But why rush? I'll still be alive when
your grandkids retire...



Dont look, scary part.

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Please include shirt size in registration information for golf prizes*

Team prizes and contests 2016

Catered dinner at BLYC included

Prizes awarded at dinner

Donations of door & team prizes needed*

**If you have access to logo or golf or lake related merchandise that could be donated, please contact Peter Soldato at psoldato86@gmail.com or Chas Grundy at chas@grundyhome.com*

2016 BLYC Men's Golf Outing Foursome Information

TEAM CAPTAIN:

PLEASE PRINT NAMES

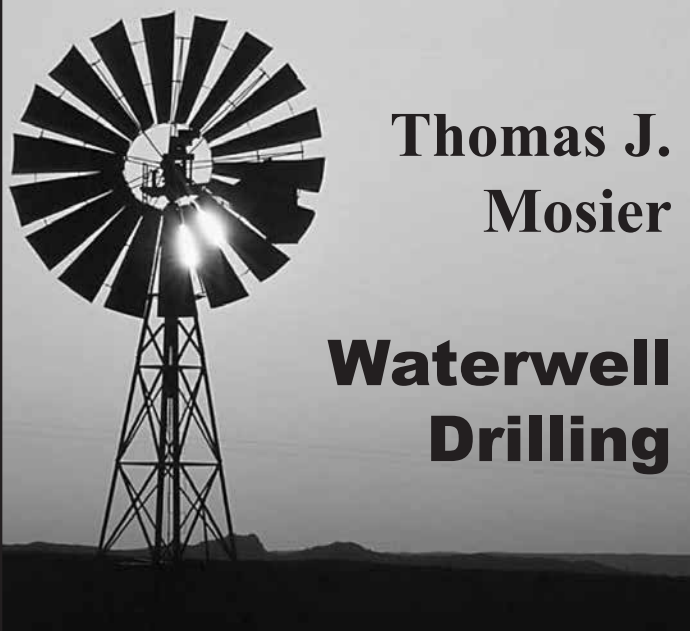
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S M L XL XXL

S M L XL XXL

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~Birch Lake Recipes~



Provided Exclusively to the Birch Barker from Mrs. Ima Foodnudge

Grilled Italian Sausage with Marinated Tomatoes

"This sandwich is a tasty way to serve Italian sausages. It is a Friday night regular for my family."

Directions:

1. Preheat an outdoor grill for medium heat.
2. Whisk together red wine vinegar, balsamic vinegar, salt, pepper, oregano, basil, and olive oil in a small bowl. Arrange the tomato and onion slices on a serving platter, and pour dressing otop. Allow to marinate at room temperature while you cook the sausages.
3. Pierce the sausages with the tip of a sharp knife a few times, then place onto the grill. Cook until no longer pink in the center, turning them frequently so that they cook evenly and have lightly browned, about 15 minutes total. Serve on French rolls with marinated tomatoes and onions.

Ingredients

- 1 1/2 tablespoons red wine vinegar
- 1 tablespoon balsamic vinegar
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon fresh-ground black pepper
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1 teaspoon dried basil
- 1 1/2 tablespoons olive oil
- 3 vine-ripened tomatoes, each cut into 6 slices
- 1/3 red onion, thinly sliced
- 6 (4 ounce) mild Italian sausage links
- 6 French rolls, halved lengthwise

Birch Barker Word Search

RAMDOM WORDS

Find each of the following words.

FEAR
DUMP
RASP
OUTLAY
EARNS

INTEND
ALTHOUGH
JADE
PANDER
DEFLATE

MUDDY
LAYER
ASPIRE
DEBASED
AGAIN

GUSTIEST
RADII
AURA

L D D N T D E D U A R U A R I I J A D E A M T S E I T S U G D I P S A E
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G E A A A U D N R P R R D N A A I P P M E A S O R T P R A Y D M A R D N

— Camp Tannadoonah —

Super week kicks off!

It was a great holiday weekend at the lake! Thank you to everyone who came out to the Pancake Breakfast at camp! I don't know what the final count was, but it sure seemed like a huge crowd to me. Many, many thanks to the pancake breakfast crew who helped organize, cook, clean up, and serve us all on Sunday morning. You guys did a great job!

Up here at camp we're getting ready to kick off our Super Week session at camp. On Wednesday (July 6), we have 77 campers arriving at camp – some of them will stay just for the three-day "Mini Camp," while some will stay through next week for the ten-day "Super Week." The theme for mini week is Circus, and for the full week (session 4) it's Hawaiian Week. We'll be having luau at camp on Friday night next week!

The week of July 24 – 30 is Holidays Week, and on Wednesday night that week (July 27) we will be Trick or Treating around the lake! So if you're going to home, and would like to provide treats for the trick or treaters, there will be approximately 60 kids. We have 120 in camp that week

– so we'll o groups. One group will go along the north shore and the first bit of the east side. The other group will go through the cove and along the west side.

Over the weekend we hit 900 camper registrations! This is the first time we've ever reached 900 – the previous record was last year's 847 camper total. It's really exciting to be able to say we're going to serve 900 youth this summer at camp.

We've also been able to provide campership funding to more campers this summer than ever before. That's part of the reason we've been able to serve so many campers. Many kids are unable to attend camp without financial assistance, and we're very happy to be able to help nearly all the campers who apply for camperships.

Our campership funds come from a variety of sources. We received a very generous grant from the United Way of St. Joseph county, which covered scholarships for about 45 campers this year. We also received campership funds from last year's House Walk at Birch Lake, the Community Foundation of St. Joseph County,

South Bend Kiwanis, and many individual donors. We are very grateful to everyone who has contributed to the campership fund. Thanks to your generosity, we have been able provide full or partial scholarships to approximately 105 campers this year!

We've been accomplishing a lot of projects at camp as well. We just purchased a camp pickup this past week, which will help Ranger Bob a lot! Over the holiday weekend we had a large number of trees taken down and cleared away – mostly dead ash trees. Ranger Bob has been working on redoing our laundry area in Main Lodge, and installing two new washer and dryer sets. Next week he plans to finish off a new bedroom in Main Lodge for our assistant camp director. And he's going to be building a stage near the old archery range, where we have our nightly camp fires and end of the week ceremonies. It's very exciting to be getting so many things done!

Hope you all have a great week!
See you at the lake.

Until next week,

~Miss Amber



CAMP TANNADOONAH
BIRCH LAKE

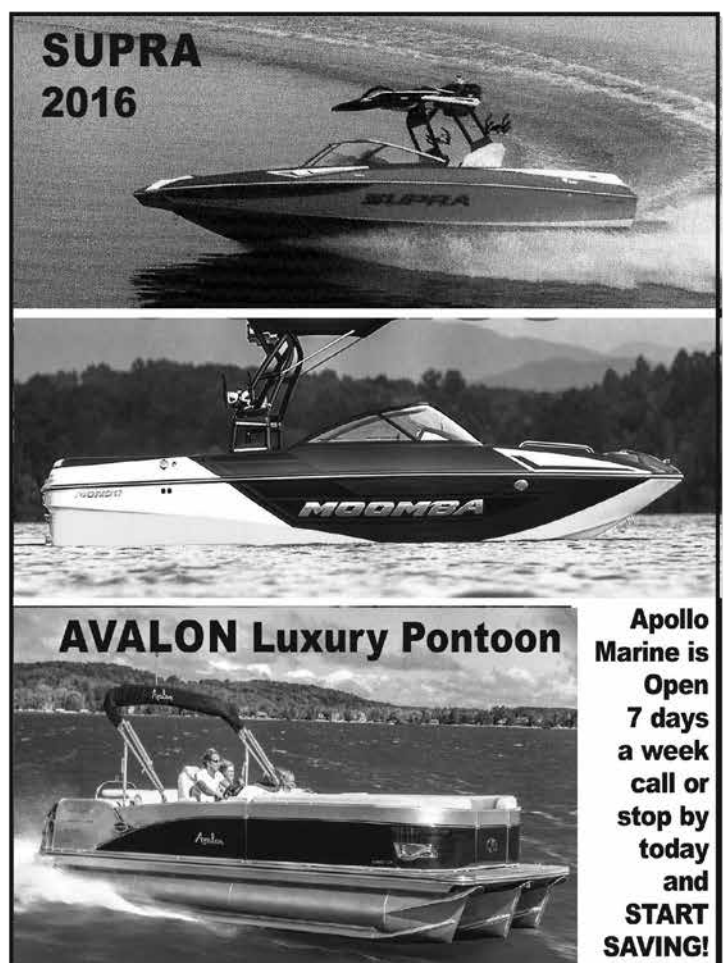
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at 574-298-2480.

For Sale: **Paddle Boat with Canopy.** Very good condition. \$150. Call 317-752-2184 Gus Eshleman

FOR SALE: **BOAT LIFT** 3500 LB. Hewitt square aluminum tubing. Canopy with 3 year old cover. 20 foot long and 110 in. wide. Great condition. Only \$750. Tom DeCocker 476-9821.



Birch Lake Home for sale at 63634 Birch Rd. 4 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms. 90 feet sandy beach front. 2.5 lots and garage across the street. Recently reduced to \$549,000. Call Judy at (269) 251-0951.

PUBLIC AUCTION

Public Auction, Saturday July 9th 2016 at 10 am; 23576 South Shore Drive, Edwardsburg MI. Exceptionally clean, high Quality Estate liquidation sale for David and Lee Kinson Estate. (Sherry Hollemans' parents). Some items of interest: 2009 Pontiac Vibe, good condition, low miles, 1990 Hurricane with 175 HP Cobra inboard. Great condition. Electric Shore Station, boat lift with canopy, in excellent working condition. Toby mugs, a primitive dry sink, (1850), solid Cedar Chest, several sets of good dishes (Copeland-Spode) dinnerware for 8. Jewellery & Silver. Household furniture, including beds, couches, sofa sleeper, dining table with chairs, and much more. Car, boat and shore station to be auctioned around noon.

WANTED

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

WANTED SUNFISH - I am looking for a newer Sunfish in great condition to race and teach my wife and grandkids to love sailing. Pat



McGann call or text 574-532-5377, or email pat@mcgannhay.com.

WANTED: 6 hp or below out-board motor. Contact Machallecks at 476-2642

Camp Tannadoonah is looking to purchase a **pickup truck.** We are hoping for an older 4x4 model for Ranger Bob to use around camp, and for picking up materials for projects. Nothing fancy! If you have a truck you're interested in selling (or donating!), please contact Amber at 574-387-6095.

Camp is also looking for a **gas-powered wood splitter.** If you have one that doesn't get much use and you're interested in selling (or donating!) it, please contact Amber at 574-387-6095.

FOUND

Found: **styrofoam noodle (pink) and boogie board (blue).** Call Tom Kuhn 708-772-7373/Jan Temple (847-846-8600)

This floated up on our shore a month ago and intended to send you this at that time. We are on the east side located at 63418 Birch Rd.

FREE

We had a tree taken down and have a quantity of large pieces of **unsplit wood** you can HAVE free. Just takes a man, a plan and a big chain saw. The Trybulars, east side, 574-272-5941.

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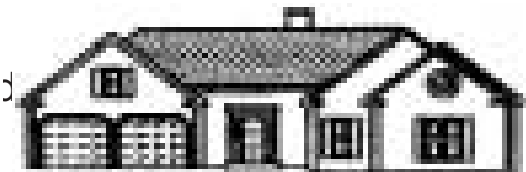
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Mike Lutz Fleet Captain (N).....476-2843 mmtlconcrete@aol.com	Fred Freihofer.....476-9823 cdfreihofer@aol.com		Sandy Vitale (E).....476-1680 sandra.vitale@franciscanalliance.org
2015 BLYC Directors			
Patty Luecht (E) Past Comm.....476-2615 Pgalloway4@yahoo.com	Vickie Rogers (C).....476-2383 tvrogers@frontier.com		NON-DIRECTOR ATTENDEES:
Chas Grundy (H).....476-7062 Chas.grundy@gmail.com	Rick Russwurm (N).....476-2407 paramountp@aol.com		Jim Bolinger BLYC Homeowners' Association Chairman (E).....476-9737 debo36@comcast.net
Greg Bolin (W).....476-2420	Scott Troeger (E).....476-9898 scott.troeger@btlaw.com		Paul Fallon, BLYC Water Quality Committee Chairman (E).....476-1467 paulf@hrpconstruction.com

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