

The
weekend
Of

July 22
2017

Birch Barker

The official summer publication of the
Birch Lake Yacht Club



Thanks to Mr. Bob King (north shore) for the photo of the sun glittering off the water between the crowd of piers and lake toys.

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

When you read this the Ladies Golf Outing will have already taken place. Maybe we had to hit a ball while standing on our heads, you never know! Anyway my psychic abilities tell me we had great fun. Thank you to Patty Leucht for coordinating this event. Now it's the men's turn to hit that little ball. Good Luck.

Thank you to the McGanns and Leuchts for another great POTP. Kids and adults were enjoying the popsicles. I heard the Jello libations were particularly good.

When I say "Corn" you say "Sausage" Forget cooking and take your family and friends to the Yacht Club July 29 for a scrumptious meal. Big and little kids love this fun time.

Save the date August 11 for the Friday Night Flotilla. Check this Barker for details. It has been one of our summer highlights in past years.

It's a great way to meet people, strengthen friendships, and check out boats! Join the fun.

Hip Hip Hooray! Thank you to Nick and Angela Bergen for stepping up and volunteering to chair the Boat Parade for next year. Birch Lake appreciates your service. This parade is so much fun and enjoyed by many. We are happy it is going to continue!

What do rubber ducks and Birch Lake have in common? Check out the Community Corner and find out.

Moonbeam moment: Your beliefs hold the key to your _____ success. (fill in the blank).

~Commodore Claudia

Friday Night Flotilla! August 11 – 6:30 p.m.

Due to past years' successful flotillas, let's do it again! We have had over a dozen boats tied together in the past.

Meet in the middle of the lake with your boat. Bring an Appetizer. Boats will be tied together and we will walk from boat to boat sharing food and camaraderie.

Look for the boats in the middle!

2017 Birch Lake Calendar

Mens Golf Outing- July 28
People's Regatta - July 29
Corn and Sausage Roast - July 29
Friday Night Flotilla - August 11, 6:30 pm
Fall Dinner - August 26
September 16 - Tour of Heddon Museum
Soup Challenge - October 14

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

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

Don Harman/Earl Troeger People's Regatta rescheduled

The Annual People's Regatta that was scrubbed last weekend due to no wind has been rescheduled for Saturday, July 29 at Lutz/s (next to Camp T). Festivities begin at 10:30, sailing at 11, lunch (sloppy joes and chips) to follow. Bring a pfd and adults, byob.

The Birch Barker is always accepting materials for publication. Deadline is 3 pm on Tuesday. E-mail materials to sailorphil@philvitale.com, or put the items in the stone/mailbox at my home, 63174 Birch Rd. (East Shore). 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 Commodore Claudia Phipps at 476-7073 or email claudia2154@gmail.com. ~Phil V

— Birch Lake Notes —

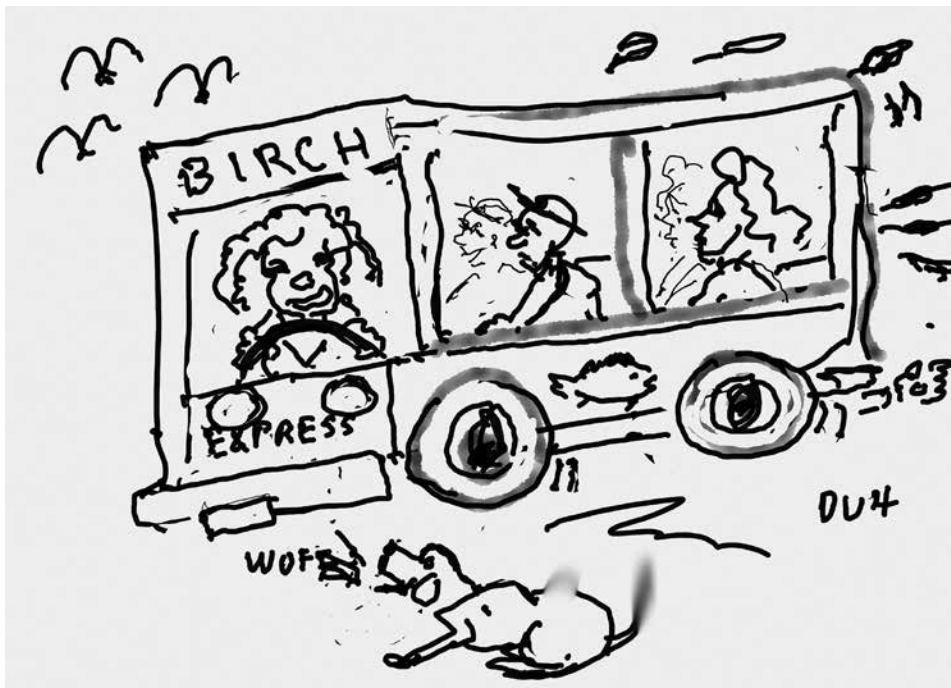
Check future Barkers for a Labor Day Weekend Flotilla.

Corn & Sausage Roast is July 29, Here It Comes!

It's almost here! Only a week to go until that fun event arrives again! Bring your appetites, families and neighbors to the annual Corn & Sausage Roast, next Saturday, July 29. From 5:30 to 7:30 pm at the Yacht Club we'll be serving delectable meals consisting of your meat choice, roasted corn, a selection of side dishes, cookies and lemonade or iced tea. Get ready for a bratwurst, hot dog or chicken breast meal (we'll only have a limited supply of chicken breasts so come early to try to catch what we have!). Pay at the door – no reservations required! Come hungry, visit with your neighbors and leave happy and satisfied! Hope to see you there!

Remembering Stanley Pitakos

Raise a glass to honor Stan Pitakos before the Corn and Sausage Roast. Stan was an important cog in the C & S grill team, and this year's Roast will be dedicated to him. Come to the grill on the hill (at the Yacht Club) at 5 pm (30 minutes before C&S start time), Saturday, July 29, to hear a few words about him, and celebrate Stan and what he meant to Birch Lake.



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

Fishing Lures, Local History

"In the late 1890s James Heddon launched a hand-made lure into a Dowagiac, Mich., pond and the ripples are still expanding. It marked the beginning of a new era – the artificial-lure fishing era – for all anglers. Heddon is the manufacturer of legendary lures, including the Spook, Torpedo, Lucky 13 and many more." (heddonlures.com)
Joan and Don, a local Dowagiac couple,

stumbled into obtaining a vast number of the antique Heddon lures and have created the Heddon Museum.

On Saturday, Sept. 16. (4 pm) arrangements have been made for Birch Lakers to tour this museum. It is a fascinating piece of local history as well as fishing history. Dinner at the Wounded Minnow would follow the tour. If you are interested in joining us for a brief overview of the lures and how they came

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Birch Lake Notes

to this couple, tour the museum (there are lures, reels, poles and antique cars!) and then enjoy a good hamburger please contact me. I am looking to see if we have enough interest and to reserve a table at the Minnow if needed.

~Blair Garceau

476-9862, bgarceau@comcast.net

Compassion Cupboard

The Compassion Cupboard at the First Church of God Cassopolis, 21083 Spencer Rd., Cassopolis, will be open from 9 to 11 am. The food pantry will be open on July 29 and August 26, and the Feed the Hungry Food Truck will at the church from 4-6 pm on August 23.

High speed Internet project

Birch Lake is part of the Jones zone for the high-speed Internet construction project by Midwest Energy. Midwest Energy is looking for more sign ups before they will begin construction in our area for 2018. The more sign ups they receive in our zone the more quickly construction will begin. Spread the word! Advise friends and family to sign up on teamfiber.com.

Birch Lake Totes

Birch Lake Totes are again available for just \$5 each (special pricing for large orders). Call Bad Patty

Luecht at 476-2615.

Let's keep this off Birch Lake!

A Fort Wayne woman was released from jail Sunday after a Steuben County boating incident that threw nearly a dozen people into a lake and left a runaway motorboat circling the lake at about 30 mph, causing more damage and injury, officials said.

The woman, 20, was charged with boating while intoxicated causing injury and being a minor in possession of alcohol, conservation officers said in a news release.

Multiple agencies – including Indiana conservation officers, the Steuben County Sheriff's Department and Parkview Samaritan helicopter – responded to Lake Gage about 7:15 p.m. Saturday on reports that several people were in the water with serious injuries, the news release said.

Ten people were thrown from a 21-foot Correct Craft Ski Nautique when it "cut into a violent turn" while traveling at a "high rate of speed," the release said, including the driver who was operating the boat.

Several seriously injured people were immediately taken to shore by people on other boats so emergency responders could tend to the injuries, the release said.

Two people reportedly were flown to a hospital with injuries, including a

skull fracture and a partial lower-arm amputation. Others less seriously hurt were taken to Cameron Memorial Community Hospital in Angola.

Unmanned, the motorboat circled the lake and came closer to boats and docks with each circle, the release said.

Conservation Officer Jake Carlile launched a Department of Natural Resources patrol boat as sheriff's deputies urged residents to move their boats and clear the area, the release said.

Carlile threw a rope from the patrol boat to entangle the motorboat's propeller, the release said, and the boat struck a dock and changed direction, striking the back of the patrol boat and disabling the patrol boat's motor.

The rope slowed the motorboat, the release said, and Carlile used a nearby personal watercraft to jump onto the runaway boat while both were in motion. He then brought the motorboat to a stop.

The incident remains under investigation by conservation officers. asloboda@jg.net.

The Birch Barker

The deadline for submitting materials for any given Birch Barker is 3 pm on the Tuesday prior to publication. The printed Birch Barker is online ... to see any week, go to www.philvitale.com and follow the links to the "Latest Printed Birch Barker."



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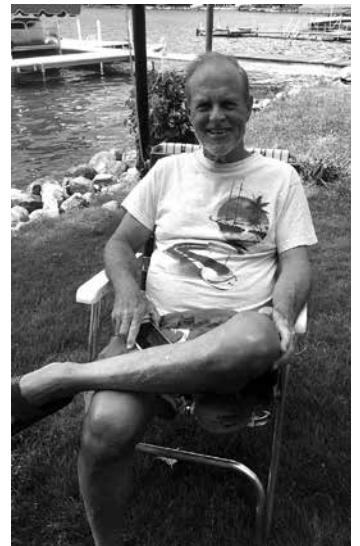
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Popsicles on the Pier II



Thanks to 2017 Commodore Claudia and Pat McGann for the POTP pics.



— COMMUNITY CORNER —

Will you be a lucky duck?



by **Sarah Petty**

Thank you to the McGann/Luecht combo for another successful Popsicles on the Pier! If you want to host a POTP, please email me at sarahkpetty@gmail.com. It's a great, low pressure way to host and attend to meet more lake people!

The Corn and Sausage Roast is next weekend, July 29! We are going to



have a little fun with a chance for free admittance! (Thanks Ed Levy for the idea). One evening next week, I'm going out under the cover of darkness and scattering 5 "Lucky Ducks" around the lake. If you find one, simply bring it to

Saturday's BLYC Corn & Sausage Roast for one free ticket! (Limit one per household). So towards the end of the week, keep your eyes peeled, maybe you will be one of the "Lucky Ducks"!



2017 BLYC FALL DINNER

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26 AT THE YACHT CLUB

5:30 - Appetizers and Mingling

Nibble on White Cheddar Pimento Cucumber Cups; Baked Brie & Bacon Fig Jam Crostinis; Mango Salsa & Arugula Shrimp Shooters; and Feta & Watermelon Mint Bites while sharing your summer highlights with other Birch Lakers

6:30 - Dinner

Pecan Crusted Chicken w/ creamy Dijon Honey Mustard over Creamy Parmesan Herb Orzo
Spinach Berry Salad with Apple Cider Strawberry Vinaigrette
Lemon Herb Grilled Summer Vegetables with Balsamic Drizzle
Savory Breads and Rolls with Herb Olive Oil

Dessert will be an assortment of mini-treats

7:30 - Year-End Meeting

Catering provided by Chic Eats

Ticket Price: \$30 per person

Tickets must be purchased in advance and presented at the door. All tickets need to be purchased by August 19

Please contact the following Birch Lakers to purchase your tickets:

Vickie Rogers - Cove
Denise Smitley or Claudia Phipps - North Shore
Karen Curtis-Miller or Patty Luecht - East Shore
Sue Williams - South Shore
Julie Sheffieck - West Shore



FLEET CAPTAIN'S CORNER

Another great sailing Sunday

Last Sunday's sailing was aided by 7 to 10 mph winds with some occasional gusts which made it a little tricky at times. We had around 15 boats competing between both classes, its nice to see that many and hope to get more sailors out as the year progresses. I don't want to jinx our Sunday ritual but we have been very lucky this year with the winds we have had. I would say probably the best in the last two years or so!

I would like to thank the boats that come out to watch the races or to be safety boats if someone runs into trouble. In the last few weeks we have had

non-sailing boats close to the finish line, which can disrupt the view or sense of location to some sailors. Please be courteous to them so they can get the best finish possible with no disruptions.

I need to thank last weeks committee boat participants Keith Kinzler, Sandy Vitale, "Questionable Patti Russwurm" and "Bad Patty Luecht" for starting the races, recording the end results and repositioning as needed to keep the committee boat in the right position.

Until Next week ...

"Splice the main brace!"

~Fleet Captain Mike~



2017 BLYC Season Sailing Results

Date	16-Jul	16-Jul	16-Jul	Total	Season	Races	%
Race	16	17	18	Points	Average	Finished	Finished
MC Scow/Sailor							
Scott Troeger #1489	1	1	2	24305	1519	15	93.8%
Jeff Smitley #2002	2	5	1	19410	1493	13	81.3%
Rick Harmon	DNS	DNS	DNS	2969	1485	2	12.5%
Barb Cassady/Maggie Cassady #2506	5	4	3	23355	1460	16	100.0%
Gib Eberhart #916	6	3	DNS	6782	1356	5	31.3%
Harold Cranmer #1991/2550	3	2	4	20330	1355	15	93.8%
Phil Vitale #500	4	7	6	10753	1344	8	50.0%
Bill Luecht #1579	7	6	5	18024	1287	14	87.5%
Pat McGann #1735	DNS	DNS	DNS	15870	1221	12	75.0%
Bob King #1199	DNS	DNS	DNS	2381	1191	2	12.5%
Sandy Vitale	DNS	DNS	DNS			0	0.0%
Sunfish/Sailor							
Rick Russwurm (Green/Blue)	2	1	1	28093	1561	18	100.0%
Peter Soldato	1	5	4	22314	1488	15	83.3%
Mike Lutz (Blue/Red/Yellow)	4	6	5	22601	1413	16	88.9%
Herb Cleveland	5	4	3	22595	1412	16	88.9%
Stewart Spratt	3	3	2	20772	1385	15	83.3%
Brad Davis	DNS	DNS	DNS	5403	1351	4	22.2%
Pat McGann	7	2	7	3833	1278	3	16.7%
Bill Butler	6	7	8	13483	1226	10	55.6%
Camille Butler	8	8	6	18058	1204	15	83.3%
Greg Cowan	DNS	DNS	DNS	3468	1156	3	16.7%

Abbreviations explained:

DNS (Did Not Sail) does not count against season score, however sailor must complete 2/3 of races to qualify for season.; **DNF** (Did Not Finish), **DSQ** (Disqualified) scores as one place worse than last place (if 5 boats finished, you would have finished 6th, will be scored as 7th place).; **DNF, DSQ** not counted toward minimum number of races needed; **CB** - sailor who serves on Committee Boat receives their season average place as of that date - counted toward season total; **SEASON POINTS** are awarded on Square of 40 system (1st = 40 squared = 1600, 2nd = 39 squared, etc.); **SEASON PLACE** = total season points/number of races attempted; **CREW** - Counted toward completed races, Points go to skipper of boat.

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Tick-borne Lyme disease exploding in Michigan

They're back.

All it took was an unusual February warm spell this past week for the tiny insects causing an increasingly big problem in Michigan to become active once again, beginning their hunt for blood.

"A student in the medical entomology lab just brought in six adult black-legged ticks — three male and three female — that were collected by his dog (Tuesday) in Lansing," said Jean Tsao, an associate professor in Michigan State University's departments of fisheries and wildlife and large animal clinical sciences. The ticks are of interest because of what they often carry with them: the bacterium *Borrelia burgdorferi*. When the ticks bite an animal, seeking a blood meal, that bacteria can transfer. And that bacteria, in dogs, horses and humans, can cause Lyme disease, a serious affliction that can be permanently debilitating for people when it's not treated early and well.

There were fewer than 30 human cases of Lyme disease reported in Michigan in any year between 2000 and 2004. By 2009, the number had jumped to 90 reported cases. By 2013, it was 166 cases. That number could be very low. The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates the number of Lyme disease cases nationwide could be 10 times higher than what's actually reported. Because of Lyme disease's relative newness in Michigan, and because its early symptoms often mimic what

feels like the flu, infected people — and even their doctors — often don't test for it. Doctors also don't always report finding Lyme disease to their local public health department.

The Lyme disease spike in Michigan correlates with the spread of black-legged ticks here. In 1998, the ticks were established in only five counties — Berrien County in the southwestern-most Lower Peninsula, and four counties in the Upper Peninsula — and reported in 22 other counties. By 2016, however, the ticks were established in almost five times as many counties — established in 24 Michigan counties. Now ticks have overtaken the entirety of the Lake Michigan shoreline and becoming established to in the southern part of the state.

Why the increase is happening now, scientists can't say for sure. Lyme disease and the ticks that carry it have long been established on the East Coast, and Wisconsin and Minnesota have more than 10 times as many human cases of Lyme disease as Michigan.

Do a tick check

As the ticks that spread Lyme disease make their way across the state, Michigan residents need to adopt the precautions long in place in Lyme-ridden areas such as New England, Foster said. Avoid areas where ticks are likely present. Use repellents on clothing.

"The key is to make sure when you come back from being in these areas, do a tick check," he said. "Remove the ticks

as quickly as you can. Even if bitten, if you can get it off before 24 hours, your chances of getting Lyme disease are almost none."

Contact Keith Matheny: 313-222-5021 or kmatheny@freepress.com.

Follow him on Twitter @keithmatheny.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services offers these tick tips:

On outdoor excursions where black-legged ticks could be present, use insect repellent that contains 20%-30% DEET.

Wear clothing that has been treated with permethrin.

Take a shower as soon as you can after coming indoors.

Look for ticks on your body. If a tick is attached to you, use fine-tipped tweezers to grasp the tick at the surface of your skin. Pull the tick straight up and out. Don't twist or jerk the tick — this can cause the mouth parts to break off and stay in the skin.

Put your clothes in the dryer on high heat for 60 minutes to kill any remaining ticks.

Hunters and anglers cannot get Lyme disease from dressing carcasses, or eating game meat, but are more likely to be in tick habitats.

Pets can become hosts for ticks and also become infected with Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases. Topical flea and tick treatments are recommended, and a Lyme disease vaccination is available. Consult your veterinarian for more information.

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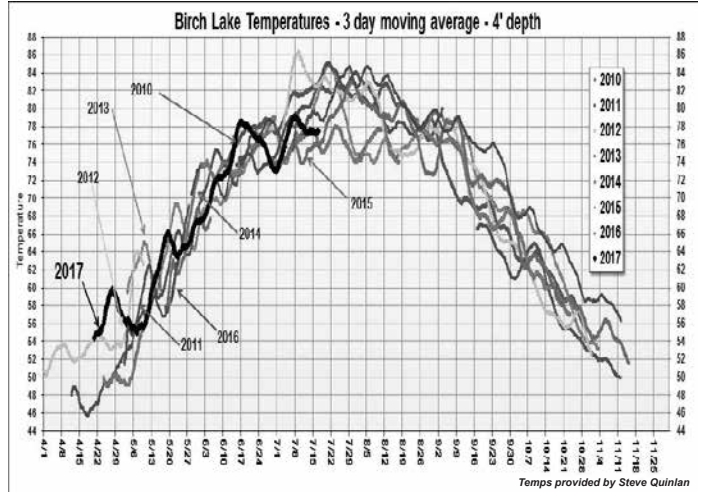
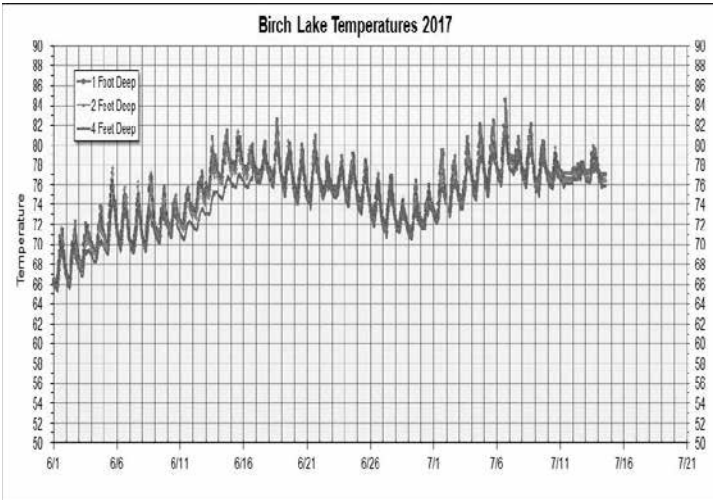
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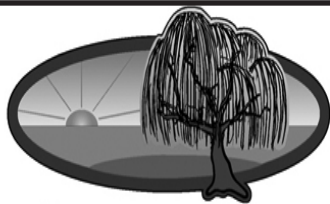
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Elizabeth Carey and Steve Decker -- Sold our home on Indiana Lake

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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!"

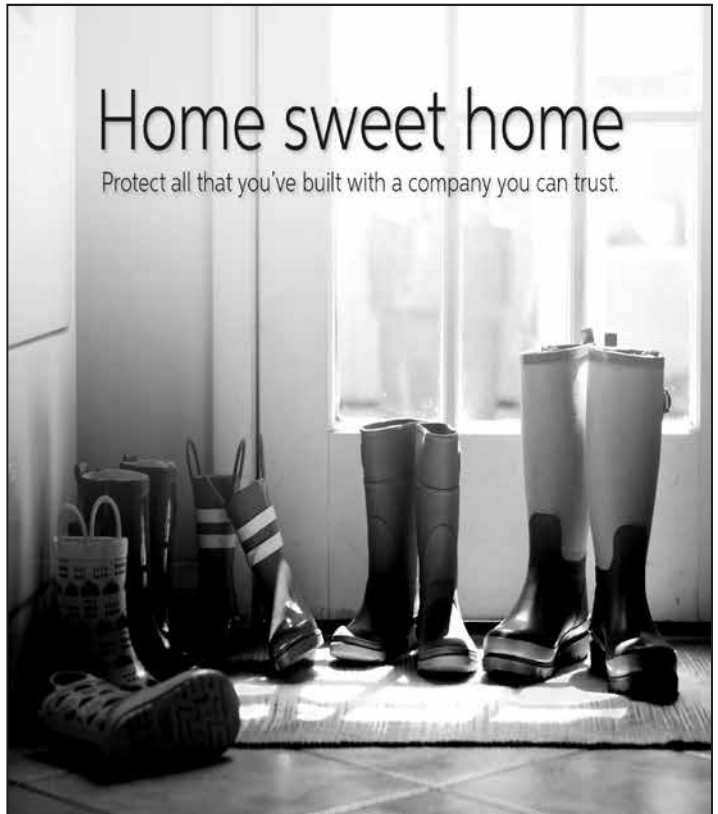
Tom Davidson -- Top qualities: Personable, Expert, High Integrity

"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."

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— Barker Kids of the Week —



Happy Birthday and "Kid of the Week Kudos" to Sandy Baucus (east side), (we wouldn't say which birthday it is even if we knew), who celebrated a birthday "float" with the family last weekend.

Thanks to Mr. Bob for the photo

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— Barker Kids of the Week —



At left: The Monroe east siders introduced another generation (4th) to Birch Lake! Tom, eldest son of Nancy & Norm, and his wife DiDi, brought their entire family (Megan & husband Brian, Lauren & husband Paul - originally from Granger, and Drew & wife Hannah from Washington state back to the lake again, this time to experience the magic with their grand kids. Lena & Audrey caught their first fish ever, Isla built sand castles & mud pies, and Olle just soaked it all in!



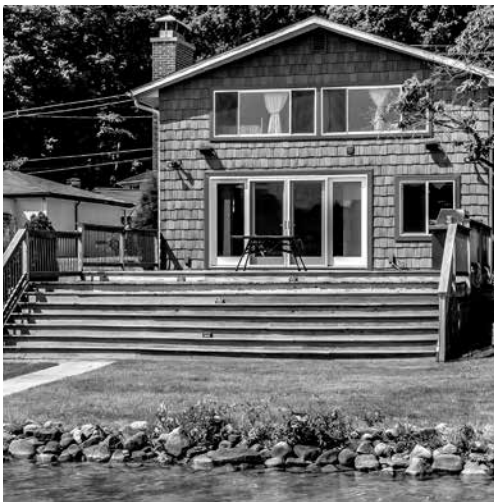
Above, guest of the Bud Hall's (cove), Jack Clarke from Memphis Tennessee. He was visiting with his grandparents Darrell and Florence Sergent from Crown Point Indiana, and his mom Julianne (Debbie's cousin, aunt and uncle) He is planning on at least a week next summer at good 'ole Birch!

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— Barker Kids of the Week —

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CENTREVILLE

Huff earns Outstanding Citizen Award

By Elena Meadows
Journal correspondent

"I couldn't not stop and help," Caleb Huff said Monday, after he received an Outstanding Citizen Award from St. Joseph County Sheriff's Deputy Kevin Brooks during the Centreville Village Council meeting.

The plaque recognizes Huff for coming to the aid of and assisting Deputy Brooks.

Huff, a Sturgis resident, was on his way to church in Three Rivers on May 28. While west-bound out of Centreville, he noticed a van on the side of the road, and observed a bigger man wrestling with an older lady, trying to get her keys from her.



ELENA MEADOWS/JOURNAL

Caleb Huff, right, of Sturgis, receives an Outstanding Citizen Award from Deputy Kevin Brooks of the St. Joseph County Sheriff's Department.

He stopped and broke them up, put her in his car for safety and kept the man from getting to her until police could come.

When Deputy Brooks arrived, the man also wrestled with him and

Huff helped Brooks until officer backup arrived.

"It feels good, but it was the right thing to do," Huff said. "I don't feel worthy of an award – it was the right thing we all should do."

This is grandson Caleb, who was given the honor of outstanding citizen award for stopping to help a woman in need. Again, we are very proud grandparents ... we are also very grateful for our wonderful children and the way that they have raised our grandchildren.

~Pat Keirn

Pat and Terry Keirn are Birch Lake residents (north side)



This granddaughter Nicole who was employee of the month. We are very proud of her work with children.

~Pat Keirn

note: Pat and Terry Keirn are Birch Lake residents (north side)

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as usual.

ADORABLE, AREN'T THEY? BIRCH BARKER KID-OF-THE-WEEK PHOTOS

Want your kid to be a Birch Barker Kid of the Week? Easy ... just mail your kid-of-the-week (or turtle of the week or plant of the week or whatever you've got) photos BEFORE 3 PM ON TUESDAYS to Birch Barker, 63174 Birch Rd., Vandalia, MI 49095; put them in a zip-lock and stick them in the stone mailbox at my home (east side), or email them to me at SAILORPHIL@PHILVITALE.COM

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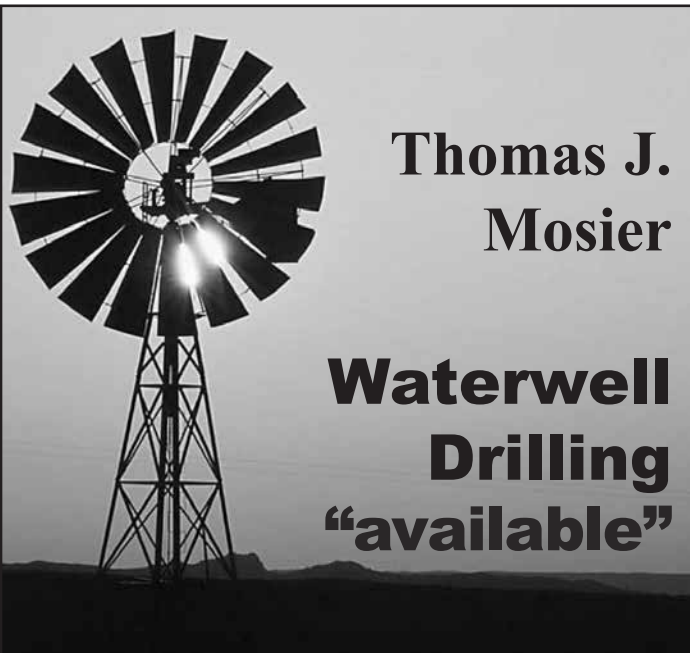
— Barker Kids of the Week —



Kelly McGann, daughter of Pat and Tessa McGann (east side) and Nick Laneman out on a romantic sunset sail in the Cole-Ah-Sail



That's BS Sandy Vitale and yours truly taking Sandy's new (old) boat the DocGre out for her second shake-down sail to see what would come apart or leak next.



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— Barker kids of the Week —



Greta Boecher, Granddaughter of Rick and Patti Russwurm (north shore) participated in the Elkhart / Salvation Army Cooking Camp this past week. She said she learned a lot and is excited to experiment on her family. Yea us!

And even though he's not a kid anymore my good friend and next door neighbor John Luecht (east side) gets to be a Kid of the Week just because he's such a great neighbor.

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YOUR HOROSCOPE

Aries (March 21-April 19) - Be especially polite and patient with family members on Monday and Thursday. The good news is that if you do overstep your boundaries or get into trouble on Monday, especially with an authority figure in the family, Tuesday is the perfect day to make amends. August promises to be a much more fun-loving, lighthearted month.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) - You have to be very careful this week, especially Monday and Thursday to avoid a verbal accident i.e. blurting something out you might later regret - and to avoid a physical accident. Go slowly and carefully. Be cautious. Think before you speak. Fortunately, midweek (especially Tuesday) is an excellent time for financial matters and boosting your earnings. You might also buy something you really like on Tuesday.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) - Keep an eye on your money scene this week because this is where you might have a rude awakening. On Monday and Thursday you might find money or you might lose money. Or perhaps, something you own will be lost, broken or stolen. Therefore, you have to keep your eyes open; and be vigilant and careful in how you handle what you own.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) - This week is full of unexpected events, snap decisions, surprise situations, restless, impulsive actions and maybe even a palace coup or two. You feel rebellious and independent and will brook no interference from others, especially authority figures. Slow down and take it easy.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - The unpredictable energy that is flying around this week will ruffle your feathers in a more private, behind-the-scenes way. You will feel plagued by a vague restless feeling. There is stuff going on behind the scenes that troubles you. Tuesday is a lovely day to schmooze with friends and groups. Wednesday is a good day to make plans, especially about vacations.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - At the beginning of the week, you might be at odds with a friend or a member a group and this might be about a competition. If it is not a direct, obvious competition, it might be a subtle competitive situation. Be careful because this definitely can involve an accident. A friendship might break up. The thing to do is to not overreact and not to respond too quickly.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - This is a tricky week to deal with parents, bosses, authority figures and the police. Do not go looking for trouble - it will find you all too easily. If you have a standoff with a parent, boss or an authority figure - think before you speak or act. Don't be impulsive or hasty.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Travel plans and matters related to publishing, the media, medicine, the law and anything to do with higher education are subject to sudden changes and surprises this week - especially on Monday and Thursday. Just be aware of this. For some, it can be an accident-prone influence, which means you have to be mindful of everything you say and do. You might encounter conflicts about politics, religion or racial issues. People are ready to revolt.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - The surprises and unexpected events that will impact your sign this week will relate to inheritances, taxes, debt, shared property, insurance issues and anything that you own jointly with others. Double check everything. Assume nothing. Tuesday is a lovely day to schmooze with partners and close friends.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - This is a rocky week for your closest relationships and partnerships. In fact, some relationships will end. All relationships will experience surprises and unexpected situations that might trigger arguments. Tuesday is a great day at work because coworkers are supportive and helpful. Maybe even flirtatious.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Get ready for a hairy week in your job, your health or where you work. These surprises and problems might also have something to do with a pet. The obvious is computer problems will occur on Monday or Thursday, causing glitches, delays or a shutdown. Or someone at work, especially in authority, could also trigger a big surprise. If so, you might be defiant. After all, you are a freedom-loving sign who values justice and fairness for all.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - Please be careful dealing with kids or children you work with. This means this is an accident-prone week for your kids. Therefore, you have to be vigilant and on the ball. Make sure that nothing hazardous or dangerous is in the picture. This can also provoke fights and arguments with your kids. Again, remember that patience is the antidote to anger.

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BIRCH BARKER FUNNIES

There were burglars



I saved your chips

Did you know: There are more planes in the ocean, than submarines in the sky



Come down?



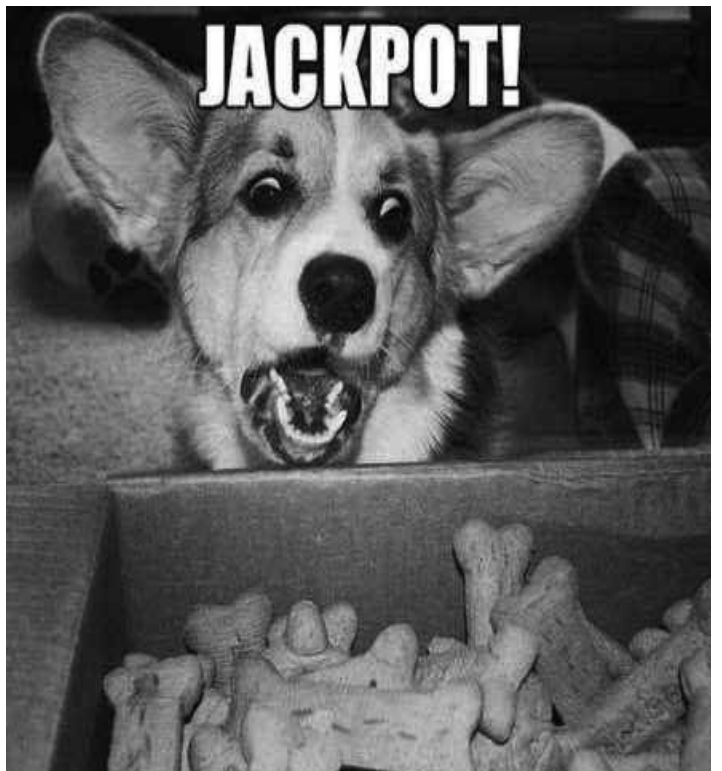
Turn off the vacuum first.

YOU THREW IT,



YOU GO GET IT...

JACKPOT!



ARE YOU MOCKING ME?



CUZ I FEEL LIKE I'M BEING MOCKED



~Birch Lake Recipes~



Provided Exclusively to the Birch Barker from Mrs. Ima Foodnudge

Pasta and Popsicles off the Pier!

One Pot Creamy Chicken Bacon Veggie Pasta

Servings: 4-6

INGREDIENTS:

- 5 strips thick cut bacon, sliced
- 1 pound chicken breast, cubed
- 1 teaspoon seasoned salt
- Pepper, to taste
- 1 small onion, sliced
- ½ pound asparagus, cut into 1-inch long pieces
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 cups fresh spinach
- 1 cup sun-dried tomatoes, roughly chopped
- 6 cups milk
- 1 pound rotini pasta
- 1¼ cups shredded Parmesan cheese

PREPARATION:

1. In a large pot, crisp the bacon on medium heat. Drain excess grease so there's about 3 tablespoons left in the pot. Add in the chicken, season with half of the seasoned salt and pepper,

and cook.

2. Once the chicken is nicely browned, remove it from the pan but leave the bacon.
3. Add in the onion and asparagus. Stir until the onions begin to become translucent, then add the garlic and spinach. Stir until spinach is wilted, then add sun-dried tomatoes and season with remaining salt and pepper.
4. Pour milk over veggie and bacon mixture, and bring to a boil. Stir periodically so the bottom does not burn.
5. Once milk is bubbling, add pasta and stir frequently until pasta reaches your desired doneness (approximately 10 minutes at medium heat).
6. Stir in Parmesan cheese and mix until cheese is melted

Easy Breakfast Yogurt Popsicles

PREP TIME: 5 MINUTES

TOTAL TIME: 4 HOURS 5 MINUTES

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 Cup Greek Yogurt

- 1/2 Cup Milk
- 2 tsp Honey
- 1/2 Cup Granola
- 1 Cup Berries/chopped Fruits

PREPARATION:

1. Mix together the milk, yogurt and 1 tsp of the honey.
2. Divide the mixture between your popsicle molds.
3. Place a few berries into each mold.
4. Mix the last teaspoon of honey with the granola (you can place the honey in the microwave for 10sec if you are struggling to mix it) and top the yogurt with a little granola mixture.
5. Place a wooden ice cream stick into each mold and place the popsicles into the freezer for at least 4 hours before consuming.
6. To remove the popsicles, run the mold under a little hot water until they come loose.

YIELD: 6-8 POPSICLES

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}



— Camp Tannadoonah —

Around the world, Christmas next

This week at camp has been Around the World Week. We have so many different countries represented at camp this year, and it's been fun having our international staff share about their backgrounds. We have staff from Mexico, Peru, Brazil, England, Scotland, Ireland, France, Kenya, China, Cyprus, the Netherlands, Armenia, Egypt, and of course the United States. Plus this week we have two campers here from Myanmar (also known as Burma)! Next week we have a group of 5 campers coming from France for two weeks, and last week we had a camper from Singapore. So it's truly been an international summer at camp!

Next week is Christmas in July at camp, and to celebrate, we will be bringing the campers around Caroling on Thursday night! If you're home, please come out and listen to our kids serenade you. We will leave camp around 7:30pm, and one group will go around the cove and along the northwest side of the lake, and another group will go across the north shore,

and along the northeast side of the lake. We have a completely full camp, so there will be about 70 kids and 15-20 staff in each group!

We're nearly to our goal of 950 campers for the summer, with a total count so far of 943 campers registered. There are 3 sessions left of camp, but we only have spaces still available for the very last one, August 6-12. So if you're still thinking of sending a camper to camp, we have about 15 spots left for girls, and 3 spots left for boys for that last week. It's hard to believe that we're already down to our last three weeks! This summer has really been flying by.

At the pancake breakfast, we had several people ask about the teal and green long-sleeved Spirit shirts, and we were out of the adult sizes they were looking for. We just received another order of shirts, so if you'd like one, they're now in stock in the store. We also have green hoodies and crew neck sweatshirts, and teal camp t-shirts available in all sizes.

Next week on Tuesday evening, our Board of Directors is going to be

joining our campers for dinner. We're excited for the board members to have a chance to see what mealtime is like at camp – especially with a completely full camp in the dining hall!

This week our facilities staff have been installing mailboxes at each cabin. Starting this week, we're going to deliver the campers' mail to their cabin doorsteps, and campers will have a chance to send intra-camp mail to one another using the mailboxes. In the past, we have sorted the mail in Main Lodge and the counselors picked it up here and then distributed to their cabins. We think it will be fun for the kids to receive mail right at the mailbox outside their cabin.

The next two weeks are going to be pretty wild and crazy at camp, with every single bed in camp filled! We have 138 campers next week (131 overnight + 7 day campers), and 142 the following week (131 overnight + 11 day campers). These are the two largest weeks of camp we've ever had, which means our staff is really on their toes!



Thanks to Cindy Rheinhardt (daughter of Bud and Barb Zesinger, east side) for the historic postcards from Camp Tannadoonah. Cindy said she came across several Camp Tannadoonah postcards in a box of old postcards that I purchased at an auction. Only one is postmarked but she believes they are all from the same year as the postmark, 1946. We will be running more in weeks ahead as space permits.



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For Sale: **2004 Sea-Doo GTI LE.** Watercraft and trailer in good condition. Watercraft just summarized and serviced ready to hit the water! Trailer also serviced, new bearings and hubs; ready for the road. Bought a boat last summer and haven't been able to use the Sea Doo very much so looking to sell it to someone who can enjoy it. Runs great! This is a three person watercraft you can pull a tube or a skier. I also have a cover for the PWC. Contact 630-935-2573

FOR SALE: **4 place pedal boat** (2 cyclors, 2 riders), available for showing and/or test drive at the King cottage. 269-476-2128 on weekends, 574-299-0705 through the week.

FOR SALE: **Original un-restored 1976 Cadillac Eldorado convertible.** Firethorn red exterior (original paint), red leather interior, "straight" body, never wrecked, stored indoors. It's a driver. Priced to allow for bumper "fillers" and tires. A few Lakers have indicated interest. Absent local sale the car will go to auction this summer. Contact Bob King 574-276-9999 or 574-299-0705.

For Sale: **used Kenmore dishwash-**

er. Very good condition. \$70. Contact Tom DeCocker 476-9821



For Sale- **Green vintage wicker sofa and chair-** \$200. Contact Beth Kenagy. 269 985-8782

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

WANTED

Seeking someone with scuba gear and training to help camp retrieve a lost sailboat rudder

FOUND

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



Found: hat found during the sailboat races two Sundays ago. Contact Pat at pat@mcgannhay.com

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

There is a rather **large aqua lily pad** that has washed ashore in the cove near Howard and Beth Blackwood's old place and Jim and Linda Bergan's house (cove) due to a recent storm. If anyone is missing a yellow and blue aqua lily pad please know the can find it on shore for retrieval.

Found: A white Bonita Bay Club visor floating by my North Shore dock last weekend. To recover call Bill Magro at 937-657-8988. A gratuity is not required.

LOST

Lost **Canoe Paddle**, black and gray. If found please call 269-476-7062

Camp T is missing several kayak and stand up paddleboarding paddles



Lost: **Yamaha Waverunner key fob.** If found please contact: Bill Magro @ 937-657-8988

BIRCH BARKER CLASSIFIEDS

Classified ads in the Birch Barker are free to paid members of the Birch Lake Yacht Club, and \$5 per ad for non-members (please pay in advance).

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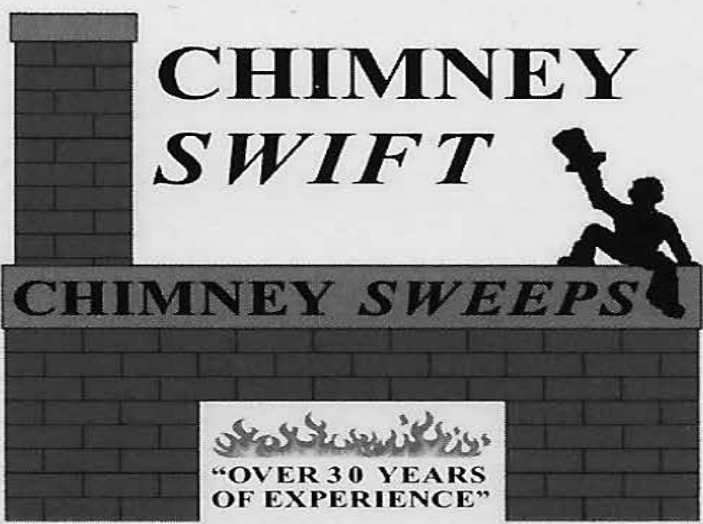
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