



Some interesting photos from a trip around the lake ... and no, that isn't snow by Stu's rock, that's a pile of cottonwood seeds. Photos by Morgann Applegate and some old guy

#### **COMMODORE'S COMMENTS**

he summer has moved into high gear as far as lake activities go. The last two BLYC sponsored events for June are the Spaghetti Dinner and Peoples Regatta. Schools are out, Reveille and Taps are back signaling Camp T is in session, the 4th of July with all of the action we have planned is fast approaching and then the House Walk/Art Fair, Golf Outings, Corn and Sausage and Fall Dinner. Sandwiched in between all of these events will be Camp T's sponsored Hog Roast, and I hope abundant sunshine, warm weather and lots of fun with family and friends.

Give yourself a break from cooking and hit the Spaghetti Dinner Saturday evening at BLYC. The fun begins at 5:30. Hats off to the south siders for all of their hard work to make a great meal.

The Peoples Regatta is next weekend on Saturday the 27th. Location is Mike and Amy Lutz on the north shore and you should plan to arrive by 10:30. Sailing begins at 11. A picnic lunch will follow with soft drinks and water provided. All sailors, young and old, experienced or not are invited. The purpose is to introduce sailing to anyone interested. Don Harmon encouraged new sailors to participate, and Patty Luecht is maintaining Don's desire in attracting new sailors to the fleet with this event. If you do not have a sail boat, you can catch a ride and learn sailing skills from another experienced sailor. Everyone has to have a life jacket ... there is a limited supply of adult PFDs available but please bring life jackets for the kids.

Sue Williams and I thank all that ventured up to BLYC for the C/VC party last Saturday evening, June13th. The food brought by all of you was excellent and it appeared to me that camaraderie was rampant.

Thanks to so many people the BLYC looked good and without their efforts we don't have the nice facility that makes our lake community unique. Let the thank-you barrage begin with Jim Bolinger for prepping the floors, bathrooms and kitchen, Sandy and Phil Vitale for cleaning up the fridge and keeping lakers refreshed, Bob Waddle and PJ Vandewalle for powerwashing

#### 2015 Birch Lake Calendar

| June 20     | Spaghetti Dinner                |
|-------------|---------------------------------|
| June 27     | People's Regatta                |
| July 4      | Boat Parade                     |
| July 4      | Fireworks                       |
| July 5      | Pancake Breakfast               |
| July 11     | House Walk/Art Fair             |
| July 17     | Ladies' Golf Outing             |
| ТВА         | Poker Run 2015                  |
| July 31     | BLYC Men's Golf Outing          |
| (Pete       | Soldato & Chas Grundy chairmen) |
| Aug 8       | Corn & Sausage Roast            |
| Aug. 29     |                                 |
| FRIDAY, Oct | . 9 Chili Cookoff               |

**2015 Board Meetings** July 11, August 1, September 5 at BLYC – Meetings start at 9 am

Dates subject to change. Watch the Barker for updates!

and eventually sealing the deck, and Sparky also woke up the hot water heater after a long winter nap, and the SparkyCam was in the house Saturday night, and you can see his pictures of your neighbors in the Barker. The only

# Birch Lake Notes -



Thanks to our Artist in Residence Duffy Dufor for the great painting ...

thing missing from this year's party was BP and her "sisters." Maybe they will make an appearance next year.

Water quality efforts are underway this past week with the exotic plant watch. Our team is participating in concert with Michigan Lakes and Streams to see what exotic species may have made their appearance here or showing up in other Michigan waters. Look for the results of this survey in the Barker. Week 2 for the sailors was touched

week 2 for the salid's was touched with a little adversity in the form of a heavy rain shower during race one. Lightning was not present and the show went on as planned. Look for Mike's comments about last week's racing action in the Barker.

That will do it from me for this week. I look forward to seeing you at

Birch lake ... where every day is an adventure.

~Commodore Fry

#### Spaghetti Dinner this Saturday

The Birch Lake Yacht club Spaghetti dinner is this Saturday! The Southsiders will serve spaghetti with two sauces, bread, salad and dessert from 5:30 to 8 pm. All tickets have been pre-sold so no tickets will be sold at the door. Take outs will be available if you bought a ticket but can't attend. Proceeds will go to the yacht club. We look forward to seeing all of our Birch Lake neighbors!

#### "Favorite Movies" Boat Parade

Hard to believe there are only two weeks remaining until the Annual Boat Parade--my, how time flies. This year's theme, "Favorite Movie," should lead to some very creative and fun "boat floats." In case you don't remember, all entrants must pick up their registration number at Dick Bender's pier on the south side. Tell the judges what movie your entry represents (in case it isn't readily apparent). Then all boats will form a line and follow the Grand Marshals' boat around the lake.

In next week's Barker we will reveal the identities of our four impartial judges. Our Grand Marshals' names will be revealed on the day of the parade. In order to guarantee good weather, we have asked Past Commodore "Bad"

# **Simply STUNNING**

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

This is just one example of the custom concrete services and products available to our friends and neighbors here at Birch Lake.

Interested in a whole new look for your plain old concrete garage, patio or entrance?

Call us today!



(269) 279-7973

mmtlconcrete@aol.com

# **Birch Lake Notes** -

Patty to use her considerable influence to assure great weather for the parade and fireworks.



#### 2nd Annual Don Harman Birch Lake People's Regatta

**EVERYONE** is invited to be part of the second annual Don Harman People's Regatta on June 27, launching from Fleet Captain Mike Lutz's on the North Shore next to Camp T.

Please arrive by 10:30 am, sailing begins at 11 am.

Come sail on an MC or a Sunfish! Welcome ALL sailors/and wannabe sailors of ANY age If you don't have a boat, we can get you aboard with an experience sailor. Come out and experience sailing and discover why our friend Don was so passionate about the sport!

You may be surprised how this onetime sailing event could literally change you from being a spectator to an avid participant!

Lunch and soft drinks will be provided, but adults BYOB. Hope to see you there. If you need any more info call Bad Patty 476-2515 or Amy and Mike 476-2843.

#### Pancake Breakfast

Come join us on Sunday, July 5 for the annual Pancake Breakfast at Camp Tannadoonah. From 8:30 am to 11 am, we'll be dishing up all-you-can-eat pancakes (a limited supply of gluten-free pancakes will be available), sausages, fruit, coffee and juice!

Cost for breakfast is \$5 for adults, kids age 6-10 are \$2 (kids age 5 and under are free).

The proceeds from the breakfast this year are going to be used to buy materials and build new bunks in the Wrens and Cardinals cabins at Camp Tannadoonah. Come and have breakfast and show your support for all the great kids who attend Camp!

#### Lake Temperatures

According to Steve Quinlan, the lake temperature sensors that he uses to

record the temps have stopped working. He replaced them, but they are still not sending results. There appears to be a problem with the wire that goes from his computer to the pier. This is not an easy fix! It is a buried cable. He doesn't know how long it will take to fix it. We'll keep you posted. So for this week at least, no graphs ... sorry :(

#### UPDATE - The Commodore's Garden

So, for avoidance of doubt, the suggestion to help printed on June 6 was metaphoric meandering and not meant to be taken literally (though Fry might appreciate weeding with supervision). The meaning, the urging, was to pick something and pitch in this summer. A small example was witnessed after the quite excellent Commodore and Vice Commodore's shindig last weekend. It's a lot of work to tear down and tidy up. And then there were two, and then ten. and then twenty people stacking tables and chairs. Shazam, she's done! Find a way to help row the boat. That is all (until there's more).

#### ~Chrys A. Lis

#### UPDATE - Suggestion (aka: Complaint) Box

It has come to our attention that the Commodore knows who we (the royal we) are and he desires no further com-



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!



And don't forget that ALL boat traffic must travel COUNTER-CLOCKWISE at all times!

# **Birch Lake Notes -**

plaining regarding weekend weather. In fact, he took us (the royal we again, or we we) aside and informed us he is not in charge of the weather and ... that is handled by a "higher power" not under the BLYC purview. So, we (that makes three for those keeping score at home) will officially stand down grousing in the weekly Barker.

> - From a (formerly) anonymous griper

#### Swimmers Itch (aka: duck itch)

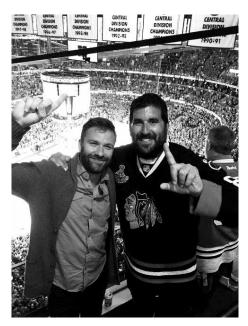
Per the explanation last weekend, the itch is upon us. It happens every year when the surface temp supports the critter bloom. Meanwhile, per Dr. George Plain (former St. Joseph County Health Officer), a simple solution is to keep a bucket with soapy at the waters edge and wash / rinse with that immediately after leaving the lake. Personally, I rarely get the itch and attribute it to baby oil. Regardless, this too shall pass. Meanwhile, don't blame the duckies ... they were here before we were :0).

~Bob King

#### It's Calendar Time!

ALC: LE

Time to submit your pictures for the 2016 Birch Lake Calendar. We need horizontal, color photos from all seasons. Since the pictures need to be enlarged, camera photos usually work better than cell phone photos. Please e-mail your best pictures (no more than five) to lin-



Keith Kinsler (right), west shore, watched the Blackhawks win the Stanley Cup at the NHL finals last Monday night ... Yea Hawks!

dal1008@comcast.net or give them to Linda Yoshizawa, Vickie Rogers, Sue Williams, or Carla Chester by July 13.

#### Name the Eagle!

Birch Lake is home to several bald eagles, and this is your chance to name one of them. The BLYC is sponsoring a "Name the Eagle" contest to benefit the water quality fund. You can submit names online until June 30. Voting will begin July 1. For more details or to submit your idea for a name, visit bitly.com/ nametheeagle. If you have any questions contact Chas Grundy at 574-315-0217 or chas@grundyhome.com.

#### Do you need to update your Birch Lake Directory listing?

New to Birch Lake? Family dynamics change? Want to update your info for the Birch Lake Directory? You can email your changes to BLYC, c/o Deb Spratt at 18100 Farmington Hills Drive, South Bend, IN 46637, or email them to **debspratt@cressyandeverett.com** ...

#### **Barker Deadlines**

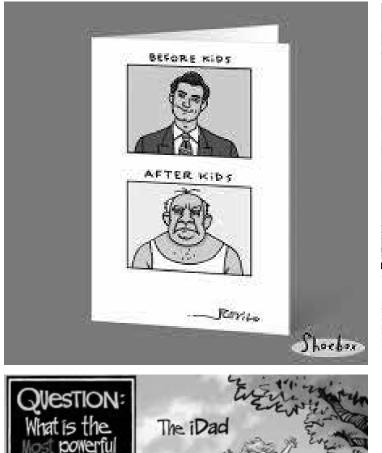
The deadline for submitting information for any Barker is the Tuesday of the week before publication (example: the deadline for materials for the June 27 issue is Tuesday, June 23) ... thanks.

#### **Online content**

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

#### **Happy Father's Day**

Take a few minutes this weekend and offer salutations to all the dads on the lake ... and in the meantime, take a look at these Father's Day funnies that Bad Patty sent in ...





#### "C'mon, Dad, let me borrow it. I'll be careful. I won't scratch it. What harm can come to a credit card?"



# **Comm/VC** Party Pix





Photos complments of the SPARYCAM









































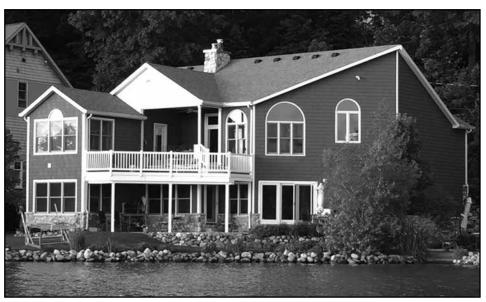
## — Birch Lake House Walk — House No. 4: PJ and Sue Vandewalle 63306 Birch Road

In 2005 PJ and Sue Vandewalle purchased two lots on Kinsey (The Hill) from an employee who worked at PJ's company. They had been looking for lake property and when they saw the view they were sold. After building a garage with living quarters upstairs, they became part-time residents at Birch Lake.

Then, when retirement was around the corner, the Vandewalles decided to look for a full-time place on the water. As luck would have it, their friend and neighbor, Artie McElwee, was selling his newly rebuilt house on the east shore. The floor plan fit their needs perfectly, and they moved in shortly thereafter.

PJ and Sue love their home and made only a few changes to the original design. They especially enjoy the open living space, high ceilings, and benefits of a full kitchen and fireplace on both levels. They even have a yoga room.

Best of all are the panoramic views of Birch Lake, both to the west and the south. The perspective from the upper floor windows is especially unique. As Sue often says, "It's like being on a boat with no land in sight! It just feels good to be here." The featured homes on the tour this year will be the Phipp's on the North side, the Koscielski's in the cove, the Petit's on the South side, the Vandewalle's, and the Curtis/ Miller on the East side.



The Vandewalles were both born and raised in South Bend. They started dating when they were 18/19, married at 19/20, and have been married for 42 years. They have one daughter, Carly, and feel lucky to have a wonderful son-in-law, Danny, and an 11 month-old granddaughter, Grace, who treasure their family time at the lake.

2015

And even though PJ grew up on Eagle Lake — and PJ and Sue built their first home on Baldwin Lake – they can't imagine being happier anywhere else. They love Birch Lake!

Birch Lake

House Walk

Art Fair

July 11th 9:30am - 2:30pm



This year we have 5 families who have graciously offered to open their homes for the **Birch Lake House Walk** on July 11. Along with the house walk, we will also have an art fair at the Wozniak barn, with local artists displaying their pottery, jewelry, paintings and photography from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm. Camp Tannadoonah will also be selling refreshments for a nominal fee. All the proceeds from the event are going to Camp Tannadoonah for camp scholarships.

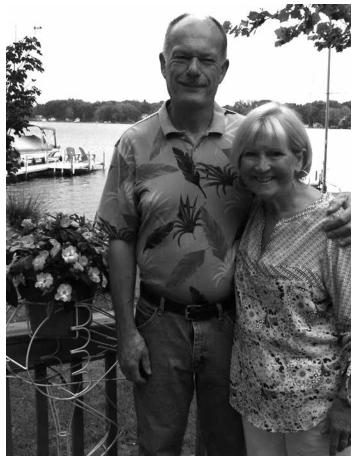
The event will start at the Wozniak barn where everyone must check in to go on the tour. From there, you will walk to the first home and then be whisked away by pontoon for your tour. The first boats leave at 10 am and run continuously. Please note ... the last boat tour leaves at 12:30 pm so that everyone completes the tours by 2 pm. A limited amount of parking will be available at the barn, so please carpool or walk if possible. It truly is a fun day and a great way to see old friends and meet new ones!

Tickets will be \$15 pre-sale, and \$20 at the door. Tickets can be bought through Denny Weesner on the South side, Vickie Rogers and Denise Smitley on the West side and Cove, Carla Chester and Linda Yoshizawa on the East side, and Sandy Baucus on the North side.

# **Barker Kids of the Week -**



One year old Grace Elizabeth Gibbs, daughter of Carly & Danny Gibbs visiting Gramma & Poppy Vandewalle (east side). She drove us in a perfect circle!



Congratulations to Bill and Bad Patty Luecht (east side), who posed for a pic (shot by son John) to celebrate their 24th wedding anniversary on May 24. The couple celebrated by going out to dinner (which was paid for by son John) with neighbors.



# - Barker Kids of the Week –



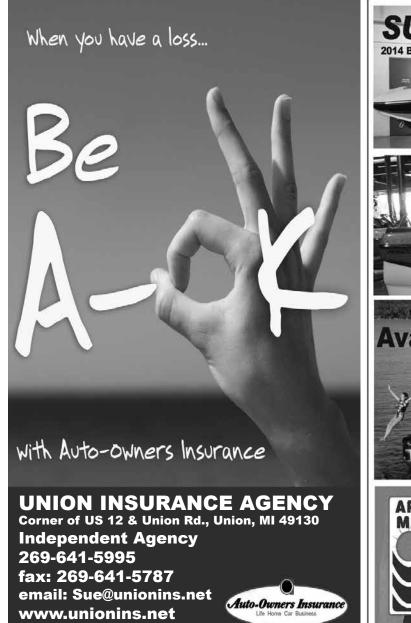


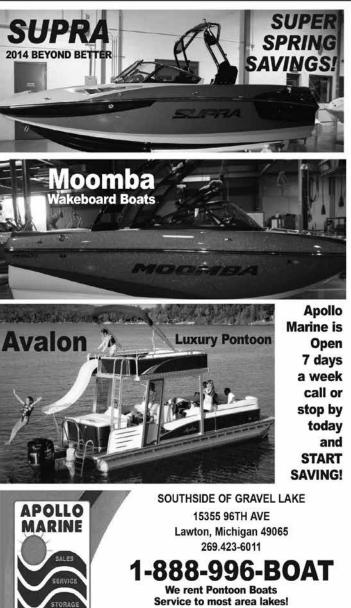
▲ Above: Tom and Julie Lacy's (south side) three grandchildren, Dezi, Xandar, and Jett.

▲ At left: This happy hunk is Reece Haisley with his mommy Dana. He is a great nephew of Rick and Patti Russwurm (north shore).

#### **KID-OF-THE-WEEK PHOTOS**

Send your kid of the week to me (or grandpa of the week or neighbor of the week or dog of the week ... we even print weeds of the week!) at Birch Barker, 63174 Birch Rd., Vandalia, MI 49095; put them in a ziplock and stick them in my stone mailbox at my home (east side), email at SAILORPHIL@PHILVITALE.COM Be sure to include the names and other details ... and please make sure the files are 6 MB OR LESS ... huge email attachments bog down my email server!





WWW.APOLLOMARINE.NET

| Announcing  | g the Annual  |
|---|---|
| <b>Birch Lak</b>                                  | <b>ke Ladies'</b>   |
|   |   |
|   |   |
|   |   |
|   |   |
| <b>GOLF</b> C                                     | DUTING  |
|   |   |
|   | 7, 2015   |
|   | f Course, Cassopolis<br><b>g — Details later</b>          |
|   | Prizes  |
| Entry fee TBA; will includ                        | te 9 holes of golf with cart, than legally allowed!!!     |
| Questions? Ple                                    | ease call 476-2615  |
| Ladies' FUN!!! Golf Outing needs hole sponsors. P | Please contact Bad Patty 476-2615 Thanks so Much!         |
| BE THERE!! GE                                     | ET YOUR TEAM!!!   |
| Each team is encouraged to                        | o donate a basket to be raffled                           |
|   | <b>d Entries by July 11</b><br>whone number for your team |
|   |   |
| I   | 2   |
| 3   | 4   |
| Contact Phone #                                   |   |
| Checks should be made out to Pl                   | LYC and dropped off to Patty Luecht                       |
|   | between Phil Vitale and "A-Frame)                         |

| BLYC 55th ANNUAL<br>BENC 55th ANNUAL<br>MENS BOLF OUTING<br>(4-MAN FLORIDA SCRAMBLE)<br>JULY 31, 2015, \$70/MAN<br>SAUGANASH GOLF CLUB<br>C1270 Lutz Rd, Three Rivers, MI - Shotgun start at Noon; Dinner at BLYC at 6 pm<br>MUST HAVE REGISTRATIONS BY JULY 13, 2015   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| Additional<br>* team prizes and contests  | Information   |  |
| * catered dinner included   |   |  |
| * prizes awarded during dinner  |   |  |
| * looking for donations of door a<br>access to logo merchandise tha<br>contact Peter Soldato at psolda<br>* Send entries to Pete Soldato 63266 Kin<br>or Phil Vitale 63174 Birch Road,  | at could be donated, please<br>to@elkhartpa.com<br>sey Street, Vandalia, MI, 49095 hill |  |
| 2015 BLYC Men's Golf Foursome Information   |   |  |
| Team Captain:   | Please Print Players names:   |  |
| Total Enclosed \$   |   |  |
| *checks should be made out to BLYC  |   |  |
| Image: Non-Structure       Image: Non-Structure <th< td=""><td>ke engines Liquor ~ Beer ~ Wine<br/>Liquor sales 7 am to 2 am</td></th<> | ke engines Liquor ~ Beer ~ Wine<br>Liquor sales 7 am to 2 am                            |  |

Hunting, Fishing licenses, bait available

CULL

## First full race weekend!

Finally, our first full weekend of completing all three races. It was not the easiest task to perform due to the downpours of rain we encountered towards the end of the first race. Our committee boat "Goddesses," "Bad" Patty, "Good" Patti and Deb Spratt stated it was just a passing shower, well it lasted for about fifteen minutes. Everyone hung it out and we were able to complete the other two races, with actually a few breaks of sunshine. I think we might have to update our weather technology that we have on the

committee boat in the future.

FLEET CAPTAIN'S CORNER

We are still looking for committee boat operation professionals to handle the races on Sundays, we have several open dates available. If you would like to get some up close action of our races, please give me a call, it's a fun way to spend a few hours on a gorgeous Sunday morning. Thanks to everyone, that help up front and behind the scenes to make these races possible every weekend!

Until next week ... "Slice the mainbrace"

~"Fleet Captain Mike"



## **2015 Season Sailing Results to Date**

| MC Scow/Sailor              |     |     |     |      |      |   |        |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|------|---|--------|
| Scott Troeger #1489         |     | 1   |     | 6400 | 1600 | 4 | 100.0% |
| Jeff Smitley #2002          | 2   | 2   | 2   | 6084 | 1521 | 4 | 100.0% |
| Bill Luecht #1579           |     |     |     |      |      |   |        |
| Bob King #1199              |     |     |     |      |      |   |        |
| Barb Cassidy #2435          |     |     |     |      |      |   |        |
| Phil Vitale #500            |     |     |     |      |      |   |        |
| Harold Cranmer #1991/2412   | DNF | 6   | 6   |      | 1209 | 3 | 75.0%  |
|                             |     |     |     |      |      |   |        |
| Sunfish/Sailor              |     |     |     |      |      |   |        |
| Peter Soldato               | DNS | DNS | DNS | 1600 | 1600 | 1 | 25.0%  |
| Rick Russwurm (Green/Blue). | 1   | 1   | 1   | 6244 | 1561 | 4 | 100.0% |
| Bob Cassidy                 |     |     |     |      |      |   |        |
| Mike Lutz (Blue/Red/Yellow) |     |     |     |      |      |   |        |
| Sandy Vitale (White)        |     |     |     |      |      |   |        |
| Herb Cleveland              |     |     |     |      |      |   |        |

 Herb Cleveland
 6
 4
 5
 5186
 1297
 4
 100.0%

 Stewart Spratt
 7
 DNS
 DNS
 2525
 1263
 2
 .50.0%

 Camille Butler
 5
 6
 8
 4766
 1192
 4
 100.0%

 Bill Butler
 8
 7
 6
 4695
 1174
 4
 100.0%

 Bob Niezgodski
 9
 8
 7
 4358
 1090
 4
 100.0%

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.



# — Dana on Drugs -

By <u>Dana Soldato</u>, PharmD ntibiotics are medications that treat bacterial infections. Antibiotics work really well. So well, in fact, that some people stop taking them as soon as they start to feel better. The trouble with this mindset is that, while you might feel better even before you have finished your antibiotic prescription, some of the bacteria may still remain in your body.

Not all bacteria are created equal. Some bacteria die very quickly when exposed to an antibiotic, and others are more resilient. When you take an antibiotic, the most vulnerable bacteria will die off quickly. After a few days, the majority of the bacteria have been killed by the antibiotic, and you will start to feel better. Your symptoms go away, and you likely consider the infection cleared.

However, the stronger and tougher bacteria might still remain, as these guys take longer to "kill!" If you stop your antibiotic early, you enable those resilient bacteria to flourish. Once those stronger bacteria start to replicate, you will become sick again, but this time, it won't be as easy to treat because you have left only the strongest bacteria behind!

If we allow these tougher bugs to replicate and mutate, new bugs can

#### Drugs & Bugs — Why you should finish that antibiotic

develop that are now resistant to antibiotic therapy. Any bacteria that can resist an antibiotic have a greater chance of survival, and a greater chance of causing harm. This is known as antibiotic resistance.

One common example of antibiotic resistance that you may have heard of is MRSA. MRSA stands for "methicillin resistant staphylococcus aureus."

Methicillin is a drug that was commonly used to treat the infection staphylococcus aureus. Now, due to antibiotic resistance that was built up to staphylococcus aureus over time, methicillin is unable to treat staphylococcus aureus. For that reason, newer, more expensive drugs have to be utilized.

Antibiotic resistance is a very serious concern that the World Health Organization boldly states as "an

increasingly serious threat to global public health that requires action across all government sectors and society."

Infections are a serious threat, and antibiotics are our most precious weapon against them. Please do your part in preventing antibiotic resistance by finishing your entire antibiotic course. You will be helping both your own health and the health of others.



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

#### **Dave's Residential Services** Home: (269) 476-2797 Wireless (269) 362-0724

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#### Home Maintenance

\* Painting - interior and exterior \*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 our 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

FIREWOOD AVAILABLE

Donnell's Docks Southwest Michigan's Premier Dock & Lift Headquarters Sales and service of all Serving you for major docks, boatlifts and over 20 years! water front accessories. For an online quote, go to www.odonnellsdocks.com 12097 M-60 • Jones, MI 269-244-1446 info@odonnellsdocks.com Autorized Dealer For: LSP inc. SHOREMAS EWITT GRAFTLANDER ShoreStation Rou-n-Go WeedRoller



# The summer solstice ..

*uestion:* Why isn't the summer solstice, the longest day of the year, also the hottest day of the year?

Answer: In temperate regions, we notice that the Sun is higher in the sky throughout the day, and its rays strike Earth at a more direct angle, causing the efficient warming we call summer. Earth's atmosphere, land, and oceans absorb part of the incoming energy from the Sun and store it, releasing it back as heat at various rates. Water is slower to heat (or cool) than air or land. At the summer solstice, the Northern Hemisphere receives the most energy (highest intensity) from the Sun due to the angle of sunlight and day length. However, the land and oceans are still relatively cool, due to spring's temperatures, so the maximum heating effect on air temperature is not felt just yet. Eventually, the land and, especially, oceans will release stored heat from the summer solstice back into the atmosphere. This usually results in the year's hottest temperatures appearing in late July, August, or later, depending on latitude and other factors. This effect is called seasonal temperature lag.

As we all know, the solstice heralds the beginning of summer in the Northern Hemisphere. This year, summer begins tomorrow, June 21 at 12:38 pm EDT.

The timing of the solstice depends on when the Sun reaches its farthest point north of the equator.

The word solstice is from the Latin solstitium, from sol (sun) and stitium (to stop), reflecting the fact that the Sun appears to stop at this time (and again at the winter solstice).

June solstice dates vary. For example, it's on June 21 in this year, but on June 20 in 2016. A June 22 solstice will not occur until 2203. The last time there was a June 22 solstice was in 1971.

While the first day of summer is the longest day of the year, we know that the earliest sunrises come a week or so before the solstice, while the latest sunsets occur a week or more after the solstice.

Happy Fathers Day!

~Stu Spratt Celebrating 51 Years at Birch Lake The Moon for this Saturday (At Midnight, US Central time, as viewed from the Northern Hemisphere) Illuminated Fraction: 0.213 3.2 days before first quarter



Sunrise: 6:08am Sunset: 9:22pm Moonrise: 11:15am Moonset: 12:05am Day length: 15h 14m



WILLOW TREE REALTY

13549 US 12, UNION M

back lots for \$15,000 each! Each lot is buildable and ready for your pole barn or guest quarters! If you have been needing more space, here is the Answer. \$15,000.

At Right: Waterfront, wooded, scenic, and in a peaceful location near the end

of the road. This is a beautiful building site with frontage on Mill Pond and deeded access to Birch Lake a very short walk away. The lake access is shallow and sandy. A great place to go in for a swim. \$59,000

For more info call Vickie Hall at 269-641-7928 or 574-849-9957

## 100 YEARS AGO A STAR WAS BORN



Congratulations to Betty Gary who recently celebrated her 100th Birthday! Betty is the mother of Vickie Rogers (cove).

# YOUR HOROSCOPE

Aries (March 21-April 19) Today's New moon is perfect to make resolutions about relating with siblings and relatives. Meanwhile, make plans for fun and games because these two days are perfect for romantic dates, sports events, parties, social occasions, flirting, enjoying vacations, having playful times with kids.

**Taurus (April 20-May 20)** You have a tremendous focus on cash flow, earnings and possessions. Think about how to improve your finances. Meanwhile, plan to entertain at home this Friday and Saturday because it will be a great success. People are in a party mood, and they feel friendly and generous.

**Gemini (May 21-June 20)** It's all about you. This means you will be direct, forthright, aggressive, keen to talk to others and persuasive about getting your way. Take a realistic look in the mirror and ask yourself what you do to improve your image. It's also a good time to think about how you can improve your closest relationships.

**Cancer (June 21-July 22)** A lot is going on behind the scenes for you. Either you are living quietly or you're making private plans and being industrious in a way others are not aware of. It would appear that whatever you're doing will lead to a boost in your earnings now and in the future because marvelous financial opportunities exist for you! These opportunities might allow you to make more money or get a better job. They will also encourage you to spend money on goodies and treasures. Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) This is a popular time for Leos. You're hanging out with younger people and competing with others in groups. Your friends are reflection of who you are. Friendships actually boost your health. Be social with others because on those days the Moon, Venus and Jupiter are in your sign paving the way for upbeat, entertaining fun. It's party city! Go out in full dazzle!

**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** Think about your life direction. Even though your primary concern in the next two years will be about solidifying where you live, you still have to think of other things. It's important to know that whatever plans you make will be helped by the fact that lucky Jupiter will be in your sign from August 2015 until September 2016.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) This month you want to travel and blow town. That's why you're doing everything to slip away even if just for a day or two. Basically, you want to grab life and enjoy it. You want stimulation, fun and a chance to learn something new. You want life to be adventurous! Make plans to have fun, especially in a group situation, because people will be friendly, eager and generous.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) This is an intense week because you are dealing with intense issues. Some of these issues might involve shared property, inheritances, insurance matters and any-thing to do with the wealth and the resources of others, especially a partner. You have a chance to make resolutions about how to make improvements in these same areas. Your passions and sexuality are also highlighted this week.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** This is your best chance of the entire year to think how you can improve your partnerships and closest relationships. How timely! Meanwhile, this is a great time to travel or do anything that expand your horizons. Sign up for a course. Learn something new. Meet people from exotic and different backgrounds.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** You are industrious this week. You're ready to take the world on and organize it better, all before bedtime. You have clever ideas about a hands-on approach to do this in your job as well as at home. Some of you are delegating work to others as well. You have wonderful opportunities to benefit from the wealth and resources of others.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Lucky Aquarians are on vacation this week because your primary focus is to play and have fun. However, this can also translate into a heavy emphasis on sports, activities with children, financial speculation, the arts, and anything to do with the hospitality industry and the entertainment world. Make a date with your main squeeze or close friend - definitely.

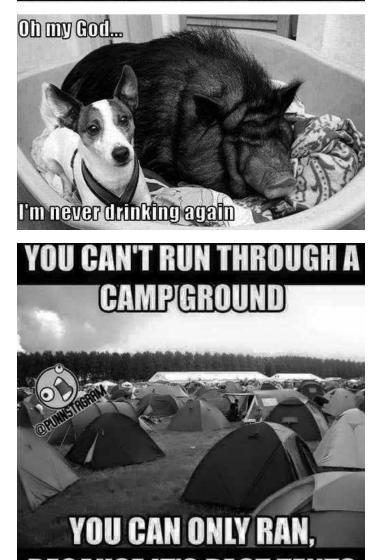
**Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)** This week your focus is on home, family and your private life. Family quarrels and squabbling have been going on. (Ouch.) This is your best chance all year to ask yourself how you can improve your family relationships as well as improve your home life. Things will go well at work. All of you will enjoy warm support from coworkers; and some might start a work-related romance. You will feel healthy and full of vitality!



#### **BIRCH BARKER FUNNIES**

# I hear the can opener

Be quiet!





# SOMETIMES, YOU JUST NEED THE RIGHT MOTIVATOR.

# I DONT ALWAYS LISTEN TO

BUT WHEN I DO, SO DO THE NEIGHBORS



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|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
|                                      | pjvandewalle@gmail.com    |  |
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| Phil Vitale (E)                      |                           |  |
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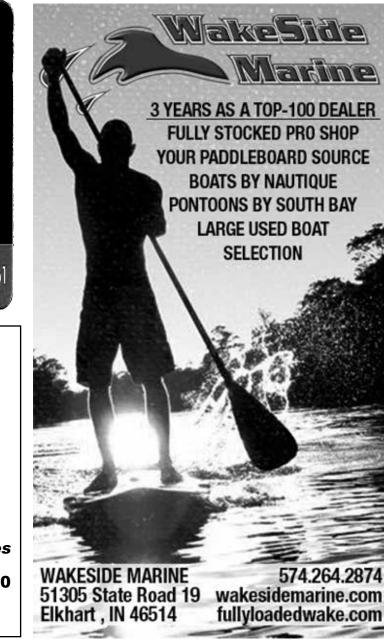
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.. 476-1467 Chairman (E) ... paulf@hrpconstruction.com

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|---------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
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| ol.com  | sp                               | parkybob220@comcast.net |

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# ~Birch Lake Recipes~



Provided Exolusively to the Birch Barker from Mrs. Ima Foodnudge

#### Burrito Pie Makes16 servings

#### Ingredients:

2 pounds ground beef

- 1 onion, chopped
- 2 teaspoons minced garlic
- 1 (2 ounce) can black olives, sliced
- 1 (4 ounce) can diced green chili peppers
- 1 (10 ounce) can diced tomatoes with green chili peppers
- 1 (16 ounce) jar taco sauce
- 2 (16 ounce) cans refried beans
- 12 (8 inch) flour tortillas

9 ounces shredded Colby cheese

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).

2. In a large skillet over medium heat, saute the ground beef for 5 minutes. Add the onion and garlic, and saute for 5 more minutes. Drain any excess fat, if desired. Mix in the olives, green chili peppers, tomatoes with green chili peppers, taco sauce and refried beans. Stir mixture thoroughly, reduce heat to low, and let simmer for 15 to 20 minutes.

3. Spread a thin layer of the meat mixture in the bottom of a 4 quart casserole dish. Cover with a layer of tortillas followed by more meat mixture, then a layer of cheese. Repeat tortilla, meat, cheese pattern until all the tortillas are used, topping off with a layer of meat mixture and cheese.

4. Bake for 20 to 30 minutes in the preheated oven, or until cheese is slightly brown and bubbly.

## **Birch Barker Word Search** CURRENT AND PAST COMMODORES

Can you find these names of the most recent Commodores of the Birch Lake Yacht Club?

BOLINGER BADPATTY MIKEY COVER BECK

MACHALLECK VITALE GABLEMAN BLAIR CHAS MULLIN FREIHOFER STANLEY SPRATT MRBOB

ERHARDT SPARKY FALLON

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# **Camp Tannadoonah**

Appy first week of camp! The campers have arrived and we are underway. This week we have 85 campers in camp, and our total for the summer is 800!! That was our goal for the summer, and there's still plenty of time for more kids to sign up. Now I'm hoping for 850 as our new goal.

We have some great special programs going on this week, led by volunteers from Birch Lake! Mr. Phil Vitale is leading a journalism class each afternoon. The campers are working hard interviewing staff and other campers, taking photos, learning about the news business, and learning about editing. They are going to produce a Camp Newspaper for the week! We're excited to see what they come up with!

Mr. Terry Dugan is also here at camp this week, teaching a science program. Yesterday the campers took samples from all over camp and are waiting to see what cultures they can grow! They are also doing sound experiments, water testing, and all sorts of other great science experiments. It's so nice to have such wonderful, knowledgeable volunteers from the lake who can help us offer great programming to our campers. This week we "outsourced" part of our Barker article to the campers at camp. I have stories from several of our campers who wanted to share their experiences with you. This week it's from some of our 11 and 12 year old girls; next time I'll get some other ages and some boys to share stories!

From Zoe (age 11): People say that time flies when you're having fun but the strange thing is that when I'm at camp I have so much fun and it feels like I'm here for a month. It might be because I wished hard enough to live here. I would say my favorite counselor but they are all too great to have a favorite. Every night is like a twelve person sleepover. All day is like a camping adventure, where we cook over a fire, play sports, do crafts, and so many other things. More than anything I want to live at Camp Tannadoonah forever.

From Ali (age 11): Camp is so much fun. The staff is so supportive here. I love the fact that we don't bring our ipods, iphones, ipads, etc. People that come to camp can find their personality. I am very artistic, and so I got to the arts and crafts center. They have all the supplies you need to make your beautiful creation. The waterfront is so peaceful and nice on an awesome summer day! I recommend Tannadoonah, and if you don't you're missing out.

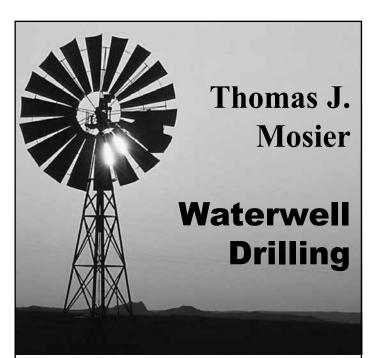
From Haley (age 12): Camp Tannadoonah is the best camp so far because I like the waterfront. I love the counselors in Luta Koda because they are the best counselors ever. I also love camp because Mrs. Amber is really fun.

From Elena (age 12): I enjoy coming to Camp Tannadoonah. During my stay here I am always welcome, having fun, and not thinking about home. And even by Monday I have done enough that it feels as though it has already been a week. I would definitely recommend coming here. The staff are so friendly and there is always room for everyone.

From CC (age 11): Camp Tannadoonah is very fun. The staff is fun, energetic, and nice. Miss Audrey, Miss McKayla, and Miss Danni are my counselors, and they're the best counselors ever! The people in the cabin are nice to me and everyone else in our cabin. There are lots of activities here like paddleboarding, water skiing, archery, handcraft, etc. You should come to Camp Tannadoonah because there are lots of fun activities. ~Miss Amber

CAMP TANNADOONAH ELECH LEKE http://tannadoonah.org

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#### <u>LOST</u>

American Flag and dark blue Soggy Dollar Bar boat flags (both on the same pole). If you find them, please call Tom Kuhn (708-772-7373) or Jan Temple (847-846-8600) west shore.

#### MISC.

**Babysitting and dog walking** services! From Taylor and Amanda! \$10an hour for babysitting. And \$10 a day for dog walking. If interested contact us at 574-304-1799 by call or text. Or by email at taylorandamanda15@gmail. com From Taylor and Amanda! 10\$ a day/10\$ an hour (prices are negotiable) contact by call or text 574-304-1799

**I do sewing** and mending at fair prices - zippers, hemming, small alterations, and sail repair Also projects not finished etc. Call Katie/Kathy at 476-9317

As an entry in the 2000, 2001 or 2002 (we can't recall which one) July 4th boat parade we paired up with Bernie and Helen Weesner. Our boat was titled **"Weekend at Bernie's."** It was a memorable trip around the lake. Does anyone have a photograph of this? We'd love to have a copy for our new house. Thanks, Bernie and Blair Garceau 476-9862

#### **WANTED**

WANTED: **kids at Yacht Club**. If a couple parents would be willing to help, BLYC is always willing to stump up a few coins to serve refreshments and let the little people play ... get to know each other. Function? TBD. Games? TBD. Date? TBD. Watch this space!

**Looking for a ride**. I am looking to bring someone fame, fortune and pride by sailing his/ her sunfish to victory on Sundays this summer. Well, maybe not so much fortune, but the other two. Please call Stewart at 574.514.0667.

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

CLASSIFIED ADS Classified ads in the Birch Barker (including the Printed and the Online Barker) are free to members of the Birch Lake Yacht Club (subject to the approval of the editor and the BLYC Board of directors), and \$5 per ad for non-members (please pay in advance). To submit an ad, email it to Sailorphil@philvitale

| BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB<br>Haven't paid your 2015 dues yet?<br>Now's the time!<br>Support the BLYC, support our Birch Lake Community! |  |  |
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