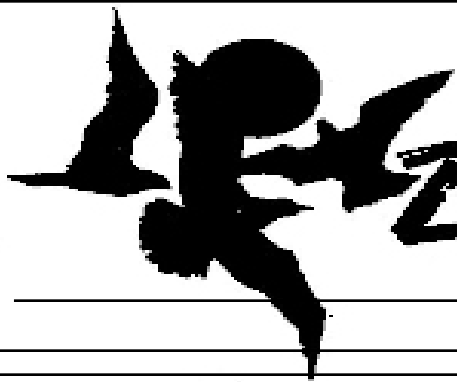


The
Weekend
Of

Memorial Day
2019



Birch Barker

The official summer publication of the
Birch Lake Yacht Club

COMMON SENSE BOATING

- * No matter what your speed, always travel in a **COUNTER CLOCK-WISE** direction
- * Go **SLOW** near other boats, rafts and shore. You are responsible for your wake.
- * Take your time and give room - stay **100'** from shore, other boats and rafts when you are travelling over wake speed
- * When pulling someone on skis or a tube, you **MUST** have an observer. Watch out for other boats and be sure to add the length of your tow line to the **100'** clearance rule
- * There must be one **USCG-approved LIFE JACKET** for every person on board, as well as one **throwable device** (seat cushion, etc.), a **horn**, a **fire extinguisher**, and a **valid registration**
- * **PWCs (Jet Skis)** must stay **100'** away from all boats and other PWCs. Jet skis have many special rules — It is your responsibility to know and **OBEY** the laws
- * **Be responsible for everyone on your boat — safety is NO ACCIDENT!**



Welcome to the 2019 printed Birch Barker! We hope everyone had a great winter, and that everyone is ready for an even greater spring/summer! We urge you to use common sense and caution whenever you go out onto the lake, observe all the rules and laws, and respect the rights of other boaters on our beautiful lake.

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Hello Birch Lakers. So glad everyone is starting to return to the lake and Spring is in the air! With Spring Showers hopefully come beautiful flowers. So be patient as the rain passes on through the area, and use this time to prepare for the days of great weather ahead!

The Spring Dinner at Papa Vino's was a great night. We had a great turnout, with 112 people attending. Special thanks to Papa Vino's for all their hard work, and thank you to each and every one of you who made the trip to Mishawaka for the Spring Dinner.

I apologize for not getting to speak, but with the way the rooms were designed it would have been short of impossible. Plus, I didn't want to bother the other patrons which looked like a fun birthday party and prom-goers.

If I did have a chance to talk to you, here is what I would have said: "We lost a lot of great people, this year who were long-time, exceptional members of Birch Lake. So please be sure to reach out to your neighbors and express condolences

for their loved ones.

There are several new things that will be happening at the lake this year, and I urge you to get involved. From trash clean-up, which Ed Chester organized successfully on May 11, to the fall dinner, be sure you participate in the lake events in between. Also be mindful of the barometer in the Birch Barker which helps us recognize the funding for the Fireworks. Yes, the tariffs on goods from China did cause an increase in the cost of fireworks for this year. If you enjoy the show, be sure to donate.

The next event at the lake will be the Spaghetti Dinner, which the Niezgodski family will be running. You can contact Ron at (269) 476-9317, or you can email birchbass1@gmail.com to see how you can help. You can volunteer your time to sling pasta, stir sauce, boil noodles or even shake some cheese but please support the Spaghetti Dinner taking place on June 15.

Lastly, please be aware of the new laws passed by the state of Michigan to help avoid the spread of aquatic species. Here are some simple rules of thumb to help boaters, kayakers and anglers navigate the new Michigan laws:
CLEAN boats, trailers and equipment.

Tentative 2019 Birch Lake Calendar

- June 1 - Porter Township Cleanup Day
- June 8 - Comm/Vice Comm party, TBA
- June 15 - Spaghetti Dinner, 5:30-7:30
- June 22 - Celebration of life for Terry Curtis
- June 29 - Comm/Vice Comm Party, BLYC
- July 6 - BLYC Firework, dusk
Raindate - July 23
- July 6 - Boat parade, 4 pm
- July 27 - Celebration of Life for LaVeta Scofield, west side, 1-5 pm
- August 10 - Corn & Sausage Roast, TBA
- October 14 - Crockpot Challenge, BLYC
- Fall Dinner TBA by VC/FC Pat McGann
- BLYC Board Meetings:** June 8, July 20, August 17; all at BLYC @ 9 am
- Dates and times subject to change.*
- More info as available. Watch for updates!*

DRAIN live wells, bilges and all water – pull all drain plugs
DRY boats and equipment.
DISPOSE of unwanted bait in the trash.
And remember when practicing catch-and-release fishing, return the fish to the water where it was caught.

The Birch Barker is always accepting materials for publication. E-mail materials to sailorphil@philvitale.com, mail them to me or put the items in the stone mailbox at 63174 Birch Rd. (East Shore). **DEADLINE** for any issue is 3 pm on the Tuesday of the week before the publication.

To contact Editor Phil by phone, call (269) 476-1680. To contact Commodore Angela Bergan, call 561-603-5522 or email berganfsu@aol.com.

— Birch Lake Notes —

Remove all drain plugs from bilges, ballast tanks, and live wells. Drain all water from any live wells and bilges. Ensure that the watercraft, trailer, and any conveyance used to transport the watercraft or trailer are free of aquatic organisms, including plants. This means that after trailering boats, and before getting on the road, boaters must pull plugs, drain water and remove plants and debris.

Violation of the law is a state civil infraction and violators may be subject to fines up to \$100.

Please enjoy the lake and have a great summer! Be safe, kind and sprinkle in some fun!"

~Commodore Angela

BLYC Road Cleanup

Following a spirited BLYC Board meeting on Saturday, May 11, a number of Birch Lakers hit the roadsides surrounding our gorgeous lake to attack the accumulated trash and litter that had piled up over the past winter. Please acknowledge the hard work of your neighbors who pitched in to make the job manageable and fun: Tom & Vicki Rogers, Mike & Julie Sheffieck, Pat McGann, Dan Waxman, Rick Russwurm, and Bob Waddle. Let's all do our best to keep our Birch Lake roadsides beautiful and litter-free throughout the summer season!

~Ed Chester



Thanks to Denise and Jeff Smitley for the "Mink on the Run" pic!

Porter Township Cleanup Day

Clean-up Day will be held June 1, from 8 am to noon. The Township will provide pickup for those unable to bring their items. A list will be available for items that are acceptable, at the Township.

Celebrations of Life – Terry Curtis and LaVeta Scofield

It was a sorrowful winter season for Birch Lakers this year with the passing of many long-time lakers. The Curtis family invites you to join us for joyful times in sharing memories and stories about Terry L. Curtis, who passed away December 1. Please join us as we celebrate Terry on June 22, at the Yacht Club (the time is TBD but it will be in the afternoon-early evening). My dad loved his hillbillies (a/k/a Vodka & Coke) so please join us in raising a hillbilly (beer or wine works, too!) in his honor. Please watch for a reminder in the June

15th Barker with the time.

~Linda Curtis, Karen (Curtis) and Eric Miller, Steve and Deborah Curtis

A celebration of life party will be held on Saturday, July 27 from 1 - 5 pm for LaVeta Scofield, who passed away on December 22, 2018. LaVeta had spent 56 years in the cove at Birch Lake. LaVeta's children, Jon, Nina and Dawn, would like to invite everyone on the lake to come and share some of their favorite memories of their mom, and they will be displaying her art.

Happy Birthday Les!

Birthday behind: most look forward to summer ... one might Miss May. This weekend is the end of Leslie King's Birthday Month! For those unable to attend the official group paddling we are holding a backup session through the Holiday. No appointment needed, the

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}



Birch Lake Notes

line forms at the rear ... BYO paddles.

Audubon Oriole observation

An Audubon Observation: odd that the East Coast Baltimore Orioles (note: not a baseball fan) look so bad while the Birch Lake Baltimore Orioles look so good! Enjoy these seasonal lovelies before they move on.

~Chrys A. Lis

Birch Lake Book Club Schedule

Birch Lake Book Club will meet on May 28 at 7 pm to discuss *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah. Michelle Seyfarth will host. Everyone is welcome.

Our book for June is *The Library Book* by Susan Orlean.

Men's golf outing

As I announced last year, I will not be continuing as chair of the men's golf outing. Despite my public and private pleas, as well as direct appeals to numerous individuals, nobody has agreed to take on this role. As of right now, there will be no BLYC Men's Golf Outing.

I know that many people enjoy and value the outing, and we have also been able to raise a little extra money for the yacht club over the past few years. The 2018 outing was the 58th consecutive annual event.

If someone wants to take this on, I am offering to write up the playbook for how to run the golf outing and assist with sponsorships this year. I'd love to see this continue and succeed.

~ Chas Grundy

New Birch Lake Directory

The Birch Lake Yacht Club is planning a new Birch Lake Directory to be published later this year and we need your input! If you have had changes in your family or if you are new to the lake (since the 2017/2018 Directory was published), we need you to provide your information so we can update and/or include the new information ...

The info we publish is: Cottage number (if you know it),

MH
McGann Hay
FUNERALS | CREMATIONS | GATHERINGS
SINCE 1842

Granger Chapel
• Large Rooms • Children's Room
• Spacious Cafe/Lounge

574-232-1411
www.mcgannhay.com

"The perfect location between Michigan and Indiana"

Pat & Tessa McGann, Birch Lake Residents, Eastside

Birch Lake Yacht Club FIREWORKS FUND \$10,250 GOAL



alphagraphics®

GET NOTICED.
GET BUSINESS.

660 County Road 15,
Elkhart, IN 46516
574-295-1203
us599@alphagraphics.com
us599.alphagraphics.com

— Birch Lake Notes —

Last name(s) of owner(s), First name(s) of owner(s), Lake address, Other address, Lake phone number, Other phone number(s), Children's names. Please send your information to Deb Spratt via email at debspratt@comcast.com as soon as possible so we can get started.

We are also looking for advertisers for the Directory ... If you are interested in advertising, please contact Phil Vitale at (269) 476-1680 or email me at onlinebarker@gmail.com.

AEDs on Birch Lake

All six of the automated external defibrillators purchased by the Birch Lake Homeowners Association and the Birch Lake Yacht Club have been installed and are functional. **Before you need one**, be sure to check out the locations and information on the inside back page of this Birch Barker.

The Birch Barker

Welcome to the first printed Birch Barker of the season. The Barker will be delivered to your Birch Lake home every weekend from now through Labor Day - FREE of charge! It will also be posted online every week ... find the Barker at <http://www.philvitale.com>.

The Birch Barker is just one of the things for which your Birch Lake Yacht Club membership dues are used to benefit to the citizens of our great lake. If you haven't paid your 2019 membership dues (just \$30 for full members, \$15 for associate members), you can do so with the handy form in every week's Barker. The Barker is also grateful to all businesses that advertise in the Birch Barker! Please support our advertisers!

The Barker welcomes content. If you would like to submit an item for consideration, email, mail or drop it by my house (see note at bottom of page 1).



Thanks to Fred Stein of Diamond Lake for the pic of a sign he saw in a Three Rivers antique shop.

If you want your materials back, include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

If you would like to advertise in the Barker or in the upcoming Birch Lake Directory, drop me an email or give me a call (for info and ad costs see <http://www.philvitale.com/Barker/BirchBarker.htm>).

~Editor Phil

On Birch Lake, boat traffic must travel COUNTER-CLOCKWISE at all times!

Message sponsored by the BIRCH LAKE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

SUNDAY IS SAILING DAY
AT BIRCH LAKE, and
ON SAILING DAYS
aces start at 11 am!
Please give 'em a break, and
STAY CLEAR OF THE COURSE

Dock Bros.
 Professional Boat Lift and Dock Installation and Removal
 Jacob Shingledecker Fully Insured
 269-506-4083

Dock Bros.
Sell 5'X6' foam floats
 269-506-4083
 Floats for sale \$80
Available in white, blue and black
Call Jacob at
(269) 506-4083

APOLLOMARINE.net

APOLLO MARINE

We rent Pontoon Boats!

We service all lakes!

OPEN 7 DAYS in Season!

South side of Gravel Lake
 15355 96th Avenue, Lawton, MI 49065
 269-423-611 1-888-BOAT

Birch Lake Notes

BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB



Sponsored by the West Shore and the Cove
All Proceeds to Birch Lake Water Quality

Saturday, June 15
5:30 - 7:30 PM

Enjoy a great evening with family and friends!
Dinner includes spaghetti with three sauces, salad,
dessert, and ice tea or lemonade. Take outs available.

Tickets must be purchased in advance

Children 3 and under – Free Ages 4-10 - \$5 Ages 11-Adult - \$8

Get your tickets today from (Buzz and Linda Rasmussen, Cam Butler,
Vickie Rodgers, Tom Kuhn, Patti Russwurm, Angela Bergen, Lynn
DeCocker, Katha and Mike Machelleck, or Sue Williams)

Sale With Susie!

Your Waterfront Specialist



Waterfront Specialist
Serving Michigan
and Indiana

SUSIE TUCKER
REALTY

574-320-6697 Cell

269-641-5775 Office

www.susietucker.com

Susie@susietucker.com



Zillow



5-STAR AGENT



susie@susietucker.com 574-320-6697



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



Birch Lake Life - SPECIAL

The 'sweet' and the 'sting' of beekeeping

Southwestern Michigan in general, and Lazy Lodge on Birch Lake in particular, are ideal locations for gardening. Our front yard is loaded with flowers, so why not try for something edible?

With unlimited enthusiasm, Vanessa and I were certain we could grow all the fruits and vegetables we needed, in addition we were going to grow enough squash and pumpkins to decorate all fall. Some years we would have miles of pumpkin vines and hundreds of squash blossoms with nothing tangible to show for all our efforts. Our thirty blueberry bushes produced enough fruit for ONE pancake. We are not the types to give up. So, one fall I visited a few pumpkin and blueberry farmers and asked them for advice. The common answer was that they rented bees during pollination season.

Rent bees I asked? Yes, there is an entire industry around bee rental they explained. My thought was why rent when I can own? With help from a local beekeeper, YouTube, a gag gift of "Beekeeping for Dummies". I was going to save the planet, or at least our small part of it.

I had been reading how extremely important bees and other beneficial insects were to our food supply, and being 250 pounds, food supply is more important to me than most. I read how the honey bee was endangered, and back yard beekeepers were making a difference in saving the species. Turns out that many of our local crops are almost entirely dependent upon the honey bee. Michigan State University estimates that 15 crops in Michigan alone would go extinct without the honey bee. Many are my favorite: apples, blueberries, cherries, pumpkins and even onions to name a few, even the summer sensation WATERMELON! Who doesn't love cold watermelon on a hot summer day, or an apple crisp with brown sugar crumble? Makes me hungry just typing. Washington State estimates the value of crops pollinated by bees in the U.S. alone to be in excess of \$14,000,000,000. I wasn't really trying to save the entire world, I just wanted a few pumpkins and blueberries. Simple I thought, I will become a beekeeper.



My first purchase was a custom made extra-large tall beekeeping suit! Then on to the hardware. Wooden boxes, frames, stands, covers and honey extraction tools. Oh, and three packages of bees. Yes, bees are sold in packages of 10,000. Complete with one queen per package. Install the bees from the package to the boxes with frames, and you have a hive. Multiple hives constitute an

By Ben Wozniak



apiary or bee yard. It's that easy, or so I thought.

My first year, I got stung at least 30 times. Vanessa, our neighbors, and friends have yet to be stung to my knowledge. In fact, honey bees do not like to sting, they do it as a last resort because they die after stinging, unlike hornets and wasps, that can sting endlessly just for fun. I even cleared a half acre of our field where the old Lazy Lodge baseball field was located to recreate a native Michigan wildflower habitat.



Two girls dressed for work

I have come to recognize

that the honey bee is an AMAZING creature. Take a few minutes this summer and if you are lucky enough to see one working, just watch and discover how beautiful their efforts are. All the honey bees you see out working are female. In fact, 95% of the hive are unfertile females and only the queen is fertile. All have what looks like a mink stole. It's like they dress up for work, but the hairs hold and spread pollen. This past summer just one squash vine produced over 30 squash thanks to our bees.

A bee hive is a social community of workers. By mid-summer one hive alone can grow to 20,000/30,000 or more. Only about half of the bees are out gathering pollen, nectar and water on sunny days. They stay home on cloudy or rainy days because they navigate by using the sun. Speaking of home in the hive, there is an entire support staff of bees inside the hive doing many chores.



Can you locate the queen?

One entire group just looks after the queen. They feed her, bathe her, and take care of her every need so she can do her sole job of laying eggs, which is typically 1,000 or more per day. Others in the work force guard



the hive, while some clean up debris and remove any waste. In fact, the hive is sterile clean, and smells amazingly sweet. Nurse bees feed and tend to the newly emerging brood. Guard bees wait at the entrance to the hive and check every incoming bee for any intruders that may steal their honey. Still others regulate the temperature inside the hive to keep it a balmy 90 degrees both summer and winter. That's right, when it gets above 90 in the summer, bees will position themselves at the hive entrance and fan their wings to cool the hive. In the winter they cluster together around the queen to keep her warm even during a polar vortex.

Still other bees are scouts that go out and look for specific flowers they like. When they find them, they fly back to the hive to perform an elaborate dance in total darkness that tells the pollen gathering bees how far and in what direction to fly to find the whereabouts of the good stuff. The bees all work as one organism, all controlled by the pheromones sent out by the one queen. It's good to be the queen. There are entire groups that build the wax, store the pollen, save the nectar, and produce the honey. In the entire life span of a worker bee, it may take 12 to 16 bees just to produce 1 teaspoon of honey. It takes an estimated 50,000 flight miles to produce just one pound of honey. Every location where honey is produced has a distinct flavor from the flowers, water, and nectar found. That is why Lazy Lodge Honey tastes so good. It tastes like summer at Birch Lake!

Since the bees are doing all the work, one might ask, what does the beekeeper do? The beekeeper's main function is to assist and protect the bees. Feeding them when they need some help in early spring after all the honey stores have been eaten. Extracting honey in summer so the hive is not congested. Dividing a large colony, so they do not fly away. Maybe you have seen on the news when a bee colony swarms away? Beekeepers also treat bees for pests that might endanger the colonies.

Imagine my shock and HORROR when last fall while cutting the grass, my tongue started to tingle and I felt dizzy. When I stopped the mower, I saw my neighbor had contracted a pesticide spray company to fog his property. They were power spraying a blue fog up into the trees and bushes on his entire prop-

Birch Lake Life - SPECIAL

erty! In a panic, Vanessa called him to find out what was going on. He and his wife were safely cocooned in their home. They told her the spray was "natural" but they were told to stay in the house and keep all their windows and doors closed. No one told us in advance and I can't prove that the fogging that day definitely caused it, but within days, six of my eight hives were completely dead. That's about 150,000 dead bees. You see, bees gather pollen and nectar and bring it back to the hive. If the pollen and nectar are covered in poison, they unknowingly bring it back to the entire colony to be poisoned. Years of effort and struggle gone. All of those wooden boxes, all the wax frames, the stores of honey no longer usable or fit for human consumption, all the worker bees and queen destroyed. I estimate my monetary loss to be around \$4,000, but the eco loss is immeasurable.

Fogging indiscriminately kills all bugs. Mosquitoes, yes, butterflies certainly, dragonflies, lightning bugs, crickets, caterpillars, all bugs, even the bees sadly.

I love the sound of singing crickets on a hot summer evening. I love the flashing of fireflies in a field at dusk. I

love the flutter of the Monarch, Swallowtail, and other butterflies in the breeze. I love the taste of a warm apple crisp and cool watermelon and blueberry pancakes, and I loved Birch Lake Honey!

One last thought, if you must spray, be a kind neighbor and warn others so

they too can protect themselves, their pets, and their garden. Warn a local beekeeper so hives can be protected. Think before you use chemicals. Better yet, try to do your little part to save our planet and Birch Lake. You don't have to spray poison.



Above photos show one of six dead hives that once buzzed with about 30,000 bees.

It's duck itch season

Swimmer's itch, also known as lake itch, duck itch, cercarial dermatitis, and Schistosome cercarial dermatitis, is a short-term, immune reaction occurring in the skin of humans that have been infected by water-borne schistosomatidae. Symptoms, which include itchy, raised papules, commonly occur within hours of infection and do not generally last more than a week.

A number of different flatworm parasites in the family Schistosomatidae are what cause swimmer's itch. These parasites use both freshwater snails and vertebrates as hosts in their parasitic life cycles. Mostly waterfowl are used as the vertebrate host. During one of their life stages, the larvae of the parasite, cercaria, leave the water snails and swim freely in the freshwater, attempting to encounter water birds. These larvae can accidentally come into contact with the skin of a swimmer. The cercaria penetrates the skin and dies in the skin immediately. The cercaria larvae cannot infect humans, but they cause an inflammatory immune reaction. This reaction causes initially mildly itchy spots on the skin. Within hours, these spots become raised papules which are intensely itchy. Each papule corresponds to the penetration site of a single para-

site.

The schistosomatidae that give rise to swimmer's itch should not to be confused with those of the genus *Schistosoma*, which infect humans and cause the serious human disease schistosomiasis, or with larval stages of thimble jellyfish (*Linuche unguiculata*), which give rise to seabather's eruption. Seabather's eruption mostly occurs in salt water, on skin covered by clothing or hair, whereas swimmer's itch mostly occurs in freshwater, on uncovered skin.

Since it was first described in Michigan in 1928, swimmer's itch has been reported from around the world. Some suggest incidence may be on the rise, although this may also be attributed to better monitoring.

Children may become infected more frequently and more intensely than adults but this probably reflects their tendency to swim for longer periods inshore, where cercariae also concentrate.

To prevent it, don't stand around in shallow, warm lake water. Staying out in somewhat deeper water and/or keeping moving such as when swimming, will usually prevent the parasites from getting you. When you or the kids get out of the water, towel off immediately



with a strong rubbing motion and then shower with soap and hot water.

Swimmer's itch typically clears up on its own within a few days, though in some cases the rash can last up to a week. In the meantime, you can control itching with over-the-counter antihistamines or anti-itch creams, such as those that contain calamine lotion. If the itching is severe, your doctor may recommend a prescription medication.

Orally administered hydroxyzine, an antihistamine, is sometimes prescribed to treat swimmer's itch and similar dermal allergic reactions.



FLEET CAPTAIN'S CORNER



Fleet Captain's Jibe #1

I am lucky and grateful to the Sailors and Committee Boat Crew to have decided to tolerate me as their Fleet Captain for another year.

This Memorial Day Weekend is the first of the BIG THREE SAILING REGATTAS of the 2019 sailing season (the others being the holiday weekends of The Fourth of July and Labor Day), so sailors get your boats ready for this Saturday and Sunday.

The other and biggest competition is the SEASON CHAMPIONSHIP for which records are kept of each regular season Sunday race. Normally, we try and get in three races each week starting at 11 am on Sunday, wind permitting. Through some complicated mathematical algorithm wizardry by Bill Luecht, he calculates and tallies a winner for the entire year based on how they placed in each race and how many of the races they participated in to determine a winner, runner up and third place finishers in both of our fleets, MCs and SUNFISH, by some percentage thing which is way above my pay grade to understand. Then he keeps the results sealer in a mayonnaise jar on Funk & Wagnalls' front porch until it is announced at the end of the year awards party.

We are very lucky on Birch Lake to enjoy a strong and healthy sailing fleet. We often get as many or more boats out on any given Sunday as lakes much bigger than our own. We are also very, very fortunate to have a physical facility in our BLYC building to hold weddings, graduation events, family reunions, birthday parties, board meetings, dances, etc. Our BLYC belongs to all Birch Lakers, not just sailors, and most of it's functions are to improve the quality of life on the lake as well as the quality of the lake water itself. Most of the money goes towards that end. Fireworks, beautiful sailboat races, water quality, weed and invasive species-control, health and security of our residents, The Birch Barker printed and online FREE newspapers delivered to your doors and your inboxes ... this is what YOUR BLYC

does! It really should be named the Birch Lake Improvement Association because that is it's primary function.

I wish that we could ALL be dues-paying members of the BLYC. If you are not, please consider doing your neighborly part by becoming a supporting annual member. Most people give a lot more than just the minimum \$30 dues. I was shocked and disappointed to find out roughly half of all of the lake frontage and lake access users fall into that category of non-dues paying members. If I have motivated you then great, because that is what I intended to do. So, please lets get 100 percent participation of all residents. Thank You!

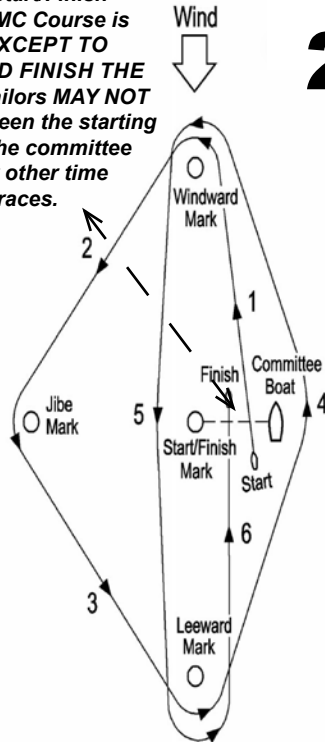
Sail on Dudes and Duettes ...

~JPM



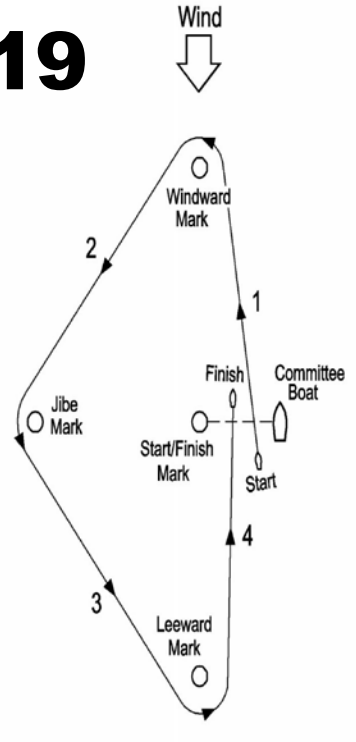
BLYC sailing courses for MC and Sunfish

Note: The Start/Finish line of the MC Course is CLOSED EXCEPT TO START AND FINISH THE RACES; sailors MAY NOT cross between the starting mark and the committee boat at any other time during the races.



MC Course
Marks to Port (Mirror Image for Marks to Starboard)
Legs 4 and 5 cannot cross the start/finish line, but they can go around either end of the line.

2019



Sunfish Course
Marks to Port (Mirror Image for Marks to Starboard)

CHANGED LIVES

RIVERSIDE CHURCH SUNDAYS AT 9 & 11 AM
THREE RIVERS, MI
RIVERSIDE-CHURCH.COM

Just down the road

It's not MARGARITAVILLE... IT'S

NOTE: WE'RE TOO SMALL TO HAVE A TOWN DRUNK SO WE TAKE TURNS!

WHERE YOU'RE NEVER ANY STRANGER THAN ANYONE ELSE!

Daily food specials, cold beer, lots of fun!

Open 7 days/wk
11 am to Midnight

69608 Sunset Blvd Zimmyville (Union), Michigan

ZIMMY'S TAVERN
(269) 641-5317
<http://www.zimmystavern.com>

Birch Lake Sailing Results

2018 BLYC Final Season Sailing Final Results

	Race Date	29 1-Sep	30 1-Sep	31 1-Sep	32 2-Sep	Race 33 2-Sep	Race Total Points	Race Point Average	Fleet Captain's Bonus	Total Points w/bonus	Point Average w/bonus	Races Attempted	Races Finished	Total MC Races
MC Scow														29
Sailor														
Barb Cassady #2506							32427	1544.14	1521	33948	1616.57	21	21	72%
Scott Troeger #1489							37154	1548.08	1600	38754	1614.75	24	24	83%
Phil Vitale #500		3	3	1	1	1	33696	1465.04	1444	35140	1527.83	23	23	79%
Maggie Cassady		2	2	2	2	3	10416	1488.00		10416	1488.00	7	7	24%
Bill Luecht #1579		1	4	3	3	4	33991	1416.29	1369	35360	1473.33	24	24	83%
Tom Cassady							1444	1444.00		1444	1444.00	1	1	3%
Bob King #1199		4	1	4	4	2	17190	1432.50		17190	1432.50	12	12	41%
		5	5	5			3888	1296.00		3888	1296.00	3	3	10%
Sunfish														Sunfish Races
Peter Soldato		1	2	1	3	1	49409	1544.03	2969	52378	1636.81	32	32	97%
Rick Russwurm (Green/Blue)							34711	1509.17	2890	37601	1634.83	23	23	70%
Pat McGann		6	5	8	7	4	46124	1397.70	3121	49245	1492.27	33	33	100%
Herb Cleveland		3	4	3	8	3	43639	1322.39	2888	46527	1409.91	33	33	100%
Stewart Spratt		2	1	4	1	2	33662	1402.58		33662	1402.58	24	24	73%
Mike Lutz (Blue/Red/Yellow)		4	3	2	2	5	23532	1384.24		23532	1384.24	17	17	52%
Steve Frew							2738	1369.00		2738	1369.00	2	2	6%
Bob Niezgodski		5	6	5	4	7	28655	1245.87	2592	31247	1358.57	23	23	70%
Jeff Walls							20366	1198.00	2450	22816	1342.12	17	17	52%
Amy Troeger							7504	1250.67		7504	1250.67	6	6	18%
Bill Butler		7	8	6	6	6	19291	1205.69		19291	1205.69	16	16	48%
Chris Scofield							3474	1158.00		3474	1158.00	3	3	9%
Camille Butler		8	7	7	5	8	28193	1127.72		28193	1127.72	25	25	76%
Stephen (Cam's brother-in-law)							1089	1089.00		1089	1089.00	1	1	3%

2018 BLYC Labor Day Regatta Results

2018 BLYC Sailing Labor Day Regatta

	Race Date	29 1-Sep	30 1-Sep	31 1-Sep	32 2-Sep	33 2-Sep	Total
MC Scow							
Sailor							
Phil Vitale #500		3	3	1	1	1	9
Maggie Cassady		2	2	2	2	3	11
Bill Luecht #1579		1	4	3	3	4	15
Bob King #1199		4	1	4	4	2	15
		5	5	5	DNS	DNS	27
Sunfish							
Peter Soldato		1	2	1	3	1	8
Stewart Spratt		2	1	4	1	2	10
Mike Lutz		4	3	2	2	5	16
Herb Cleveland		3	4	3	8	3	21
Bob Niezgodski		5	6	5	4	7	27
Pat McGann		6	5	8	7	4	30
Bill Butler		7	8	6	6	6	33
Camille Butler		8	7	7	5	8	35

— Water Quality Report —

We interrupt for this special message: Currently lake water levels are high. Please bear in mind the extra damages that can be done by wakes under these circumstances. Thank you. And now back to our regular programing.

As you are probably aware, Birch Lake is a member of the Michigan Lake Stewardship Associations [previously known as the Michigan Lakes and Streams Associations]. Through that organization we participate along with many other lakes in a testing program through the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program. This is a state-funded group and testing program using volunteers for each lake participating. The data collected provides a major statewide database on what is happening in Michigan's lakes as well as the yearly snapshot regarding our lake in particular.

Thus, we test for phosphorous in the spring and late summer (a primary nutrient in the lake), chlorophyll on a monthly basis (an indicator of algal growth), rate of loss of dissolved oxygen in the water column (also a measure of lake productivity and ability to sustain life), and water clarity on a weekly basis. The phosphorous, chlorophyll, and water clarity measurements make up what is called our trophic index (TSI), which is really a measure of the aging of the lake. Aging will occur, but we want it to occur as slowly as possible so as to maintain a body of water that is great for living on as well as playing in however we choose to do so (swim, boat, fish, kayak, etc.).

The monitoring program also has an exotic plant watch component and a shoreline development component. We participated in the exotic plant watch a couple of years ago, but also have the lake evaluated each year for invasive species as part of our Eurasian milfoil program by an outside company. Currently we only have Eurasian milfoil, curly leaf pondweed, and purple loosestrife. The milfoil is treated annually. The curly leaf pondweed has not been a problem needing to be dealt with. Late each summer, Bruce Wagner and crew locate, and then manually pull, all the purple loosestrife along our shoreline. We are however on the watch for especially starry stonewort, an invasive in nearby lakes and very difficult to deal with, in addition to other exotics which are making their way into Michigan's waters. We did receive a rather poor rating on our Score the Shore analysis performed in 2017, This

is somewhat understandable due to the development on our lake.

We would like for you to actually to look up and read the CLMP report. This is done in an educational format and provides not only the data for 2018 but a retrospective of the last number of years for comparison. A good way to find the report is to go mymlsa.org and click on the MiCorps Cooperative Lake Monitoring Program box. From here look at Featured Content and go to Individual Lake Reports where you can find the information for Birch Lake in the Cass County section. You can also look up any other lake that has participated in the State of Michigan. Instead of listing a lot of facts now, let us just say that the testing program for 2018 demonstrated a small backslide in the very positive results from 2017's testing. We are now back to levels of phosphorous and chlorophyll consistent with those recorded in 2016 and the few years immediately prior to 2016. As a result, our overall TSI score returns to the level where it had been previously, and that is on the borderline between the highest quality lake [oligotrophic] and the combination of the highest and second highest quality lake (mesotrophic). While less great than last year's results, we are still in a very good status. Let's hope the positive trend noted in the 2017 results reinstates itself and our status improves even more in the future. All of our actions, or lack thereof, contribute to our success.

We will further discuss all of these subjects in future issues.

The CLMP report seems to have an error regarding the dissolved oxygen temperature profile. We are not sure what happened in the transposing of the data, but we generally had good oxygen levels, supportive of fish habitat to a depth of 50' in the spring and early summer and to a depth of 30-40' in late summer and early fall. The data as presented is confused and should be disregarded. We will provide updates this summer as measurements are made.

One note at this



time is that the reduction in clarity of the lake as the summer ensues, is not much of a function of algal growth. Algal growth does occur, but a good deal of clarity loss is probably due to the precipitation of calcium carbonates (marl) with the warming water. We get a grayish rather than really greenish water.

2017 (the year with the great results) was a relatively calm storm year so less runoff from the shoreline. Thus far this year with all the rain, if anything is around the lake it will get into the lake.

Please do not make runoff easier to get to the lake. Plant margins by the shoreline, pick up ashes from any burning you do on the road or near the lake.

Thank you.



celebration of life

- IN LOVING MEMORY AND CELEBRATION OF -

LaVeta Scofield
MARCH 11, 1928 - December 22, 2018

SATURDAY, July 27, 2019 - 1:00 - 5:00 PM

Birch Lake
62769 Birch Lakeview Dr, Vandalia, MI 49095
678.427.7784

Join us we gather to share some of our favorite memories, our stories, and LaVeta's art - and to laugh and remember a wonderful person who is greatly missed

Understanding. Insightful. Effective.
Local.



TUESLEY • HALL • KONOPA, LLP
attorneys

Estate planning
Elder law
Business counsel
Mediation
Litigation

Cassopolis • South Bend • Elkhart
269.445.1818 | thklaw.com

— Barker Kids of the Week —



Birch Barker KOTW kudos to both Dan Waxman (east side) and Harrison Grundy (east side), son of Amber and Chas Grundy, who were photographed enjoying the annual BLYC Spring Dinner at Papa Vino's in Mishawaka ...

KID-OF-THE-WEEK PHOTOS

Want your kid to be a Birch Barker Kid of the Week?

Want your dog to be a Dog of the Week? Want your lawnmower to be the lawnmower of the Week?

Just mail your photo (with a SASE if you want the photo(s) back) 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 them to me at SAILORPHIL@PHILVITALE.COM

**My 30 point marketing system is
Dynamic! — Exciting! — Productive! — Creative!
And most importantly GETS RESULTS!**

Offering...

- Drone, professional, and 3-D photography...
- video... TV, print, and magazine advertising...
- internet, email, and social media marketing...
- 3rd party advertising... including Zillow with video
- Luxury Homes international...
- and MORE, MUCH MORE!

I can help you reach MORE buyers!



Real effort. Real results.

Waterfront & Homes

701 Spruce St.
Dowagiac, MI 49047



Dennis Bamber

Cressy & Everett REALTOR
Licensed in Indiana and Michigan

Cell: 574-532-3808



Working in conjunction with Birch Lake resident Rick Doolittle

— Barker Kids of the Week —



Marlee Soldato's first Taco Tuesday at Zimmy's. Marlee is the daughter of Peter and Dana Soldato (Hill).



Turtle of the week kudos to this prehistoric-looking monster photographed by Bob Niezgodski on the west side of Birch Lake ...

The LAKE LIFE REALTY GROUP



Get a **FREE** market analysis!
Contact Paul DeLano:
269-445-8877
Paul@TheLakeLife.com

Birch Lake homes for sale



62930 Birch Road

3-bedroom, 2.5-bath, 2,200-sq-ft lodge-style home on a 1.2-acre lot. Sale of furniture, furnishings, and decorations will be negotiable. On the main level, a foyer with a soaring ceiling opens to the living room with

fireplace, a bar, a formal dining room, and a family room with lake views and a knotty pine ceiling. The kitchen has an island with breakfast bar seating, stainless appliances, and a casual dining area that leads to a covered patio with a new hot tub and a 19x33-ft saltwater pool and a deck with panoramic lake views. The master suite, with walk-in closet, also has access to the covered

patio. A laundry and mud room, with access to garage as well as outdoors, has a powder room. Upstairs, a landing affords lake views for two bedrooms. On the lakeside lot, a matching hut has a bath, kitchenette, and covered porch next to a stone patio with fire circle. The property includes a 3-car garage and plenty of off-street parking. An adjacent lot is also available.



15176 Birch

Lake Shore Dr.

3 BD 2 BA 2,698-sq-ft home on double lot w/ 128 ft waterfront, fenced tennis court, large backlot w/ 1,200-sq-ft heated Morton Building. House has large windows, broad upper deck, covered lower patio, 3-season room, brick patio w/ custom-built

chimneyed fireplace near water. Upper level: large living room w/ vaulted ceiling, exposed natural beams, Midcentury Modern fireplace designed by Wendell Lovett, deck access, panoramic lake views; dining area w/ lake views; sink for wet bar; 3 BD; 1 BA; outside access. Spiral staircase down to sitting room w/ 3-season room and patio access, dining room, kitchen w/ bar seating and casual dining, 1 BA. Street-side lawn has wrought iron fence and brick path to the home.



63126 Birch Road

TURNKEY - 3 Bed, 2 bath, Year-round cottage on 60 ft of sandy frontage. Updated kitchen and open concept living & dining with great sunset views and access to a large lakeside low-maintenance deck with awning and lots of storage below. Ample parking for 6 vehicles.

OUT OF INVENTORY!

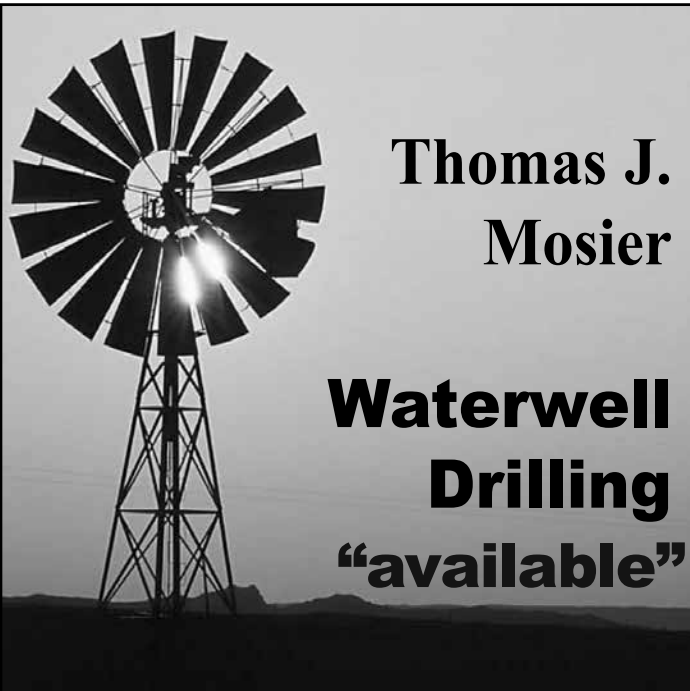
LISTINGS NEEDED!

HOMES ARE SELLING

**NOW IS A
GREAT TIME
TO LIST
YOUR
HOME!**

CALL
**PAUL DELANO
TODAY**

269-445-8877
Paul@TheLakeLife.com



**Thomas J.
Mosier**

**Waterwell
Drilling
“available”**

5” Water Wells

**Repair & Service
Most Water Pumps**

“Promise of Quality

**M-60 E
Cassopolis**

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

Welcome to Jaywalker



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

General Handyman Services



**Need something repaired replaced or
maintained? Let me see if I can help!
Lake references available.**

SAVE THE DATE

**Ladies’ FUN!!!! Golf Outing
JULY 19**

**Diamond Lake Golf Course, Cassopolis
9 am Tee Off**

**Lunch at BLYC following the Outing
Games, Prizes, 50/50 Raffle**

More details to follow

**We are looking for sponsors and volunteers
Questions? Contact
Barb Cassady 574-303-2831
or Jeannie Welsh 574-286-2890**

YOUR HOROSCOPE

Aries (March 21-April 19) - You will love the next four weeks because as the Sun changes signs on Tuesday, it ushers in a big shift! The pace of your days will accelerate and you will start to be booked with appointments, errands, tasks, visits, conversations with siblings and relatives plus increased reading, writing and studying. You'll be Alice's White Rabbit, "I'm late, I'm late for a very important date!" You will be curious. You will meet new people and see new places.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) - As the Sun changes signs at the beginning of this week, likewise, your focus will shift to money, cash flow and earnings for the next four weeks. You will give more thought to money-making ideas and how to boost your income. You'll be more hands-on about how you earn your living. (Note: The next few weeks are a marvelous time to buy wardrobe treasures for yourself.) Meanwhile, pay attention to everything you say and do on Wednesday because something unexpected will change your routine.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) - The Sun enters your sign at the beginning of this week, which is the only time all year that this happens. It will stay for four weeks boosting your energy and attracting favorable opportunities and important people to you. Since things are going your way - use this to your advantage! It's an excellent time to give a talk or explain or sell something. Secret love affairs and flirtations will take place for some.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) - The next four weeks are the perfect time to think about what you want for yourself in your new year ahead. This has been (and continues to be) your year to improve your job and your health. If this hasn't happened yet - get on it! This is also a significant time because Saturn is opposite your sign creating a strain on partnerships. (You stay in the wrong relationship too long because you hate to let go.) Midweek, something exciting will rev your engines!

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - Every sign has a ruling planet and your ruler is the Sun. This week the Sun moves into your House of Friendships, which means you will be more popular in the next four weeks! You will be eager to socialize and be more active with clubs and organizations. You might take the helm and direct the activities of a group. You will also hang out with younger people, and will give thought to your hopes and dreams for the future.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - The Sun is at high noon in your chart for four weeks. This happens only once a year and it symbolizes that the Sun is shining a spotlight on you - and this spotlight is flattering! As a result, in the next four weeks, bosses, parents and VIPs will admire you and think you are super competent and capable. Do not do anything to dissuade them of this notion. This is not the time for false modesty. Travel for pleasure will appeal and perhaps something exciting will happen midweek that makes this a possibility.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - You love to interact with people. In the next four weeks, you want to travel! You will also adore learning something new so by all means, sign up for a course, hear lectures, learn a new language and talk to people from other cultures so you can expand your world. Sex will be hot and memorable. You will also receive gifts and favors (even cash) from others.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - You are a passionate, intense sign and this week, you enter a four-week window that will be also be passionate and intense! For starters, sex will be affectionate and memorable. The stars are really smiling on you when it comes to relationships because not only is your passion aroused, boosting your interest in physical intimacy, but with fair Venus opposite your sign, you find it easy to get along with others. Egos will be softer. Cooperation will be easier. A sudden chance to travel midweek might fall in your lap. Stay tuned!

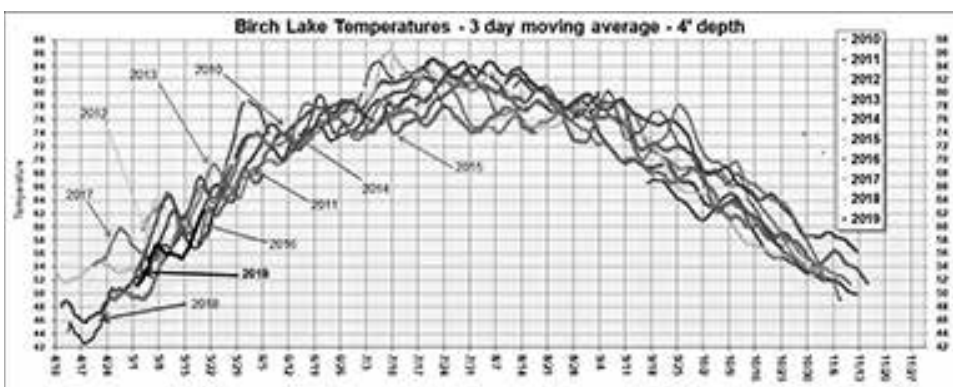
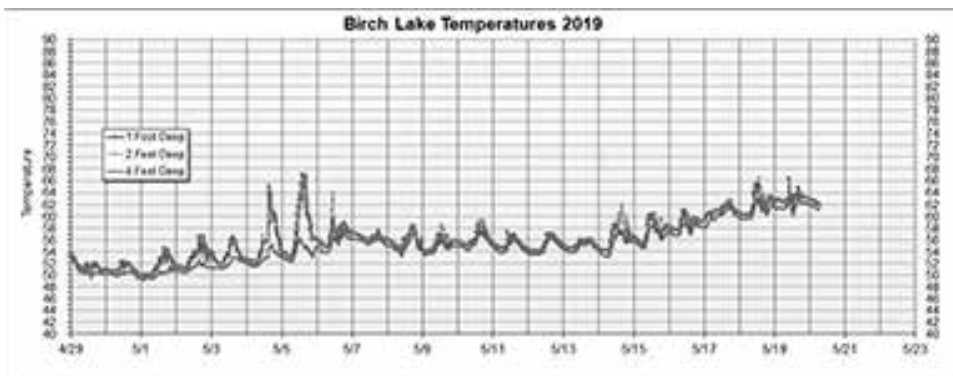
Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - The Sun is your source of energy and because it will be opposite your sign for the next four weeks, this means (symbolically speaking) it is as far away from you as it gets all year. This is why your energy will flag. You will need more sleep. Nevertheless, increase your focus on partnerships and close friendships. You will be more engaged, more talkative and more observant about your style of relating to those who are close to you.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - This week the Sun ushers in a four-week window where you will set high standards for yourself. You want to be efficient; you want to be effective. This is why you will give more thought to how you manage your life. You hate waste and likewise, you hate to waste your energy. You're not afraid of hard work because "no pain no gain" is your motto. Note: The impatience is on your part. Yes, they seem annoying but it's through your eyes.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - As the Sun changes signs this week, it introduces you to the most fun-loving four-week window of the year! You're heading into a fantastic time for a vacation. It's also fantastic for all kinds of fun-loving, playful situations. Accept invitations to party. Enjoy the arts, movies and musical performances. Visit galleries and museums. Have fun activities with kids.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - This is a time of mixed energy for you so you can really pick and choose what you want to do. The Sun and Mercury will pull your attention to home, family and your personal life. You might tackle home repairs you've been avoiding. Venus promotes schmoozing with others and helps you to appreciate your daily surroundings and feel affectionate to everyone. Mars urges you to play, flirt, and be socially active and competitive in sports. It also amps your sex drive! This means you're in the driver's seat! You can pick and choose what you want to do.

Birch Lake Environmental Data



Temps provided by Steve Quinlan

The Moon for this Saturday

(At Midnight, US Central time, as viewed from the Northern Hemisphere)
Illuminated Fraction: 0.533
0.4 days before last quarter

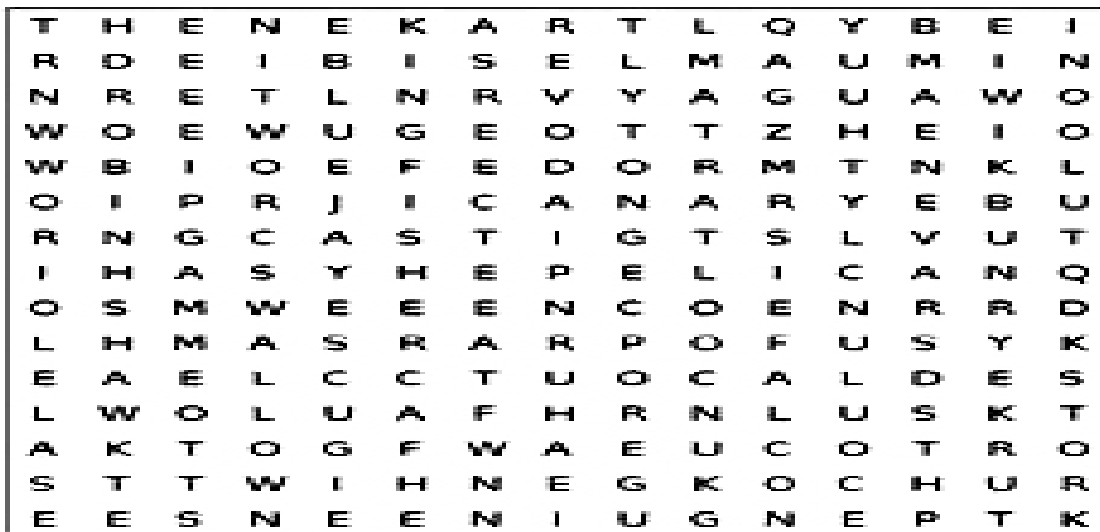


Sunrise: 06:12:36 AM
Sunset: 21:06:19 PM
Moonrise: R: 02:06:09 AM
Moonset: 12:13:09 PM
Daylight: 14 Hr 53 Min 42 Sec

— Barker Weekly Puzzle —

Light as a Feather

Find all of the hidden words and the letters that remain spell out a funny saying about our feathered friends.



BLUE JAY
CANARY
CRANE
CROW
DOVE
DUCK
EAGLE
EGRET
EMU
FALCON
GOOSE
GULL
HAWK

HERON
IBIS
KINGFISHER
KIWI
LARK
LOON
MACAW
MAGPIE
ORIOLE
OWL
PELICAN
PENGUIN
PUFFIN

QUAIL
QUETZAL
RAVEN
ROBIN
STORK
SWALLOW
SWAN
TERN
TOUCAN
TURKEY
WREN

Talk With A Live Person



VOTED NILES
BUSINESS OF
THE YEAR!

ADVANTAGE PLUMBING INC.

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

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



Top 10 Reasons to Choose ADVANTAGE PLUMBING

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



After Hours
Emergency
Service



- Bonus — The Only Attitude You Will Receive is a Good One!



Major Credit Cards Accepted



2400 N 5th ● Niles, MI

269-687-7192 Niles, MI

866-751-1470 Toll Free

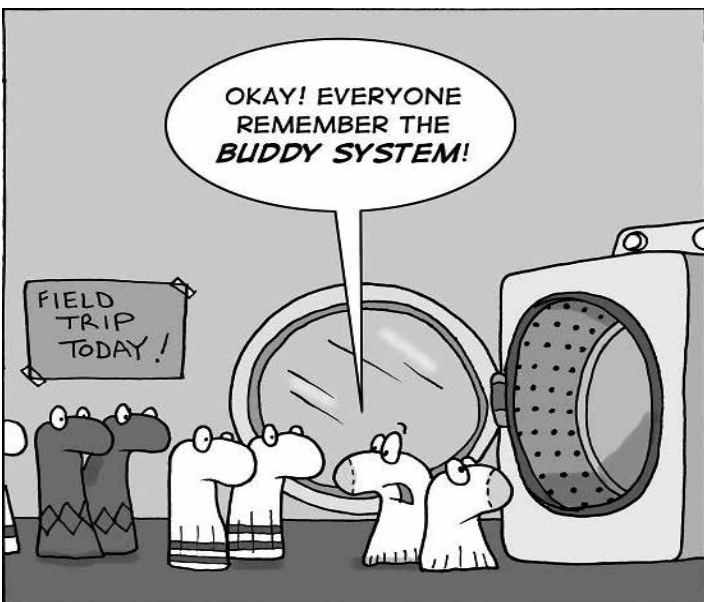
www.advantageplumbinginc.net

BIRCH BARKER FUNNIES



I hate it when I think I'm buying ORGANIC vegetables, but when I get home they're just REGULAR donuts.

I've started investing in stocks: beef, chicken, and vegetable... One day I hope to be a bouillonaire.





~Birch Lake Recipes~



Provided Exclusively to the Birch Barker from Mrs. Ima Foodnudge

ZUCCHINI PIZZA BITES

Memorial Day Fun Appetizer

Zucchini Pizza Bites are one of our favorite snacks! These delicious pizza bites are topped with our favorite toppings and plenty of cheese for the perfect low carb pizza fix!

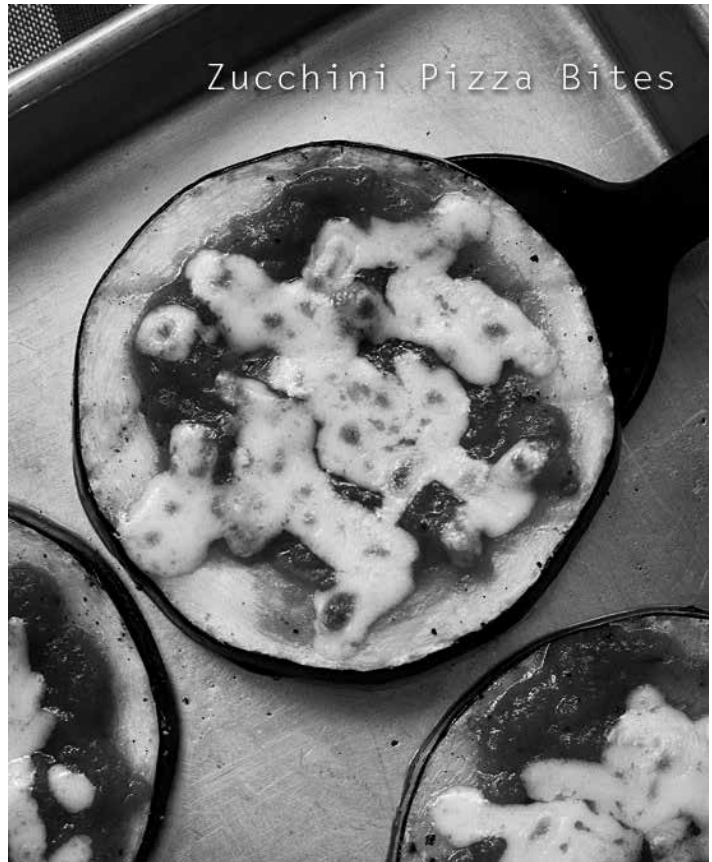
Course: Appetizer
Cuisine: American
Servings: 6 servings
Calories: 145 kcal

Ingredients

- 2 large zucchini
- 1/2 cup low carb pizza or tomato sauce
- 1 teaspoon oregano
- 2 cups mozzarella cheese
- 1/4 cup Parmesan cheese
- Pizza toppings as desired

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 450°F. Line a baking pan with foil and set aside.
2. Slice Zucchini 1/4" thick and arrange on prepared baking sheet.
3. Top zucchini slices with pizza sauce, oregano, cheese and your favorite pizza toppings.
4. Bake 5min or until zucchini is tender. Broil 5min or until cheese is bubbly and melted.



O'Donnell's Docks LLC
Southwest Michigan's Premier Dock & Lift Headquarters



Serving you for over 20 years!

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

For an online quote, go to www.odonnellsdocks.com



12097 M-60 • Jones, MI
269-244-1446
info@odonnellsdocks.com

Authorized Dealer For:




Prime Property Care

Gavin Francis
313 North O'keefe St.
Cassopolis, MI 49031
(269) 591 9848

- Mowing
- Edging
- Spring/Fall Clean UP
- Hedges
- Gutter Cleaning
- Rock/Mulch Installation

gavinfrancis@rocketmail.com

— Camp Tannadoonah —

Hard at work getting camp ready

Welcome back to the lake! Despite the weather not feeling like it recently, summer is coming up fast, and we're all getting ready here at camp. As I write this on Tuesday, we have just 26 days until the first campers arrive, and our first staff members will be arriving in just seven days!

We have had so much going on up here at camp this winter. We're working on the second phase of the Morris Lodge restoration project, which involves replacing all of the windows and exterior siding. Our contract, John Richey from Cassopolis, has done a fantastic job maintaining the original look of this 1938 building. Once the exterior is done, our next project is to completely re-do the electrical and plumbing, and completely overhaul the bathrooms in Morris.

Ranger Bob has also been hard at work in Main Lodge, where we are continuing to upgrade the staff spaces. He's been installing new windows, hanging new pine carsiding on the walls, re-doing electrical and lighting, replacing screens and shutters, and assembling new furniture. Anyone who worked at camp in the past and knows what the staff lounge and bathrooms in Main looked like in the

past will be astonished by how it looks now! We want to make Main an inviting and comfortable place for our staff to spend their time off.

We currently have 850 campers registered for the summer, which is nearly 70 kids ahead of where we were on this date last year! We're hoping to have 990 total campers for this summer, and I think we're well on our way to that goal. The past few months we've been focused on getting our staff hired for the summer, and as of right now we have just ONE counselor position left to fill!

We're excited to have a lot of fresh faces on this year's staff, and it's an amazingly diverse group. We have staff coming from 9 US States (Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Virginia, Kansas, California, Arizona, Iowa, and Pennsylvania) and 13 different countries (England, Scotland, South Africa, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Mexico, South Korea, the Philippines, Tunisia, Brazil, Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Cambodia)!

Last year, we asked former campers, former staff, parents, and other friends of camp to "adopt" a staff member, and send them mail and care packages. This year we have a slightly different idea. Because so many of our staff are coming

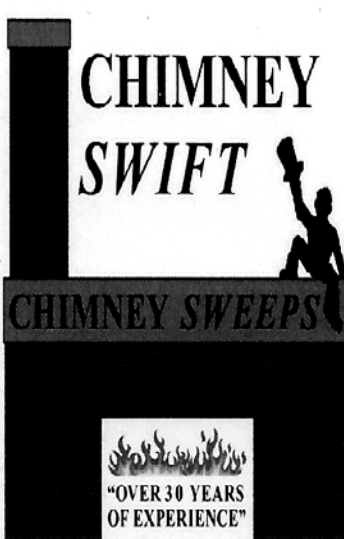
to camp from far away, very few of them will have means of transportation to get away from camp on their nights off.

We're hoping we can find some lake folks who would be willing to drive staff into Elkhart or Three Rivers or Mishawaka for their time off, or who might be willing to host a small group of staff for a dinner or cookout. Staff members have time off in the evenings on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, and in the afternoon and evening on Saturdays. On a typical week night, we have around 12 staff members who have the night off.

If you'd be willing to provide a ride into town so they could go to the store, or if you can pick up a group if someone else drops them off, or if you'd be interested in hosting a small group (you tell me how many you can handle!) for a barbecue during the summer, we'd love to be able to offer them opportunities to get out of camp for a bit every once in a while. You can email me at amber@tannadoonah.org or call me at 574-387-6095.

Hope to see everyone up at the lake soon!

~Miss Amber
amber@tannadoonah.org



CHIMNEY SWIFT
CHIMNEY SWEEPS


"OVER 30 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE"

SERVICES

- CHIMNEY CLEANING
- CHIMNEY RELINING
- CHIMNEY CERTIFICATIONS
- CHIMNEY REPAIRS
- DRYER VENT CLEANING

DEREK POLSTON
(574) 514-4831

www.chimneyswiftchimneysweeps.com





CAMP TANNADOONAH
BIRCH LAKE

<http://tannadoonah.org>



SUMMER
Outdoors
WATER

All we need now is a **BOAT**

BOAT RENTALS AVAILABLE, ANY LAKE
Pontoons, ski boats, kayaks, fishing boats

PARTS, SERVICE, FUEL,
CONVENIENCE STORE, WINTER STORAGE

Visit our new Lake Boutique !
We have a large selection of lake clothing, signs, home and cottage decor items and much, much more!

County Line Rd. Three Rivers
269~244~5878
www.corylakemarina.com
LIKE US on Facebook



CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

FOR SALE

4-seater pedal boat for sale. As-is (though we will get her down from the pole barn for test rides). Contact the Kings at 476-2128.

House for sale: 63306 Birch Rd.; 3 BR, 2.5 bath, 2600 SQ FT., 94 FT frontage, 2 stall attached garage, 2 full kitchens, many other extras, \$719,000, call PJ or Sue Vandewalle, 476-7086 for appt or info.

FOR SALE: **Standing drill press, 1976 CASE Tractor with bucket, plow, deck/Pontoon paddleboat.** All are working and in excellent condition. All offers considered. Call Paula @ 708-769-6026



For Sale: the **former Misch Manufacturing building** located at 14111 Esther Ave., Mishawaka, IN 46545. Location 3/10 of a mile west of Capital Avenue between Jefferson and McKinley. Contact Jill Celie-Brenay, REMAX, or Bob King.

WANTED

Looking for a **house/guest house to**

rent from July 3-7 this summer. Contact Debbie Soldato at (312) 590-2997

My husband and I recently purchased a home on Lenore St and had heard that there might be a possibility of **purchasing/renting pier space** somewhere. Patricia Colburn, pcolburn81@sbcglobal.net

Are you considering selling your house? We love living on Birch Lake, but **need more room** (4 or more bedrooms). Would appreciate an email regarding your cottage and plans to sell. Thanks! Laura Bird, incottage36@gmail.com

Camp T is looking for donations of **plastic grocery bags and empty toilet paper rolls**

Amber Grundy's mom, Sherry, is once again looking for **old bikes** for an art project. If you have a bike you'd like to get rid of, please call Sherry at 574-252-6854 or Amber at 574-315-0227. Bike does NOT need to be in working order.

SERVICES

I do **sewing and mending** at fair prices - zippers, hemming, small alterations; call Kathy at 476-9317

For Housecleaning please call

Stephanie at (269) 580-0338 for details

FOUND

FOUND - A green and white "Hurricane" brand kayak, with "Santee Sport 116" written on it's hull near the bow, has recently blown up to shore and been pulled out of the water on the east side of the lake, between DuFours and Waxmans, where it now resides.

FOR RENT

Interested in a unique, **fun vacation?** Check out renting the most inexpensive but cutest and best-located rental in The Villages, Florida at **ourhome4rent.com/cjp**



For Rent (above): Immediate occupancy available, lovely neighborhood, unfurnished, call Leslie at 476-2128

Classified ads in the Birch Barker are free to BLYC members, \$5 for everyone else. Send your ads to me at sailor-phil@philvitale.com

Your local hometown HERO

Your local independent agent is your neighbor – someone you can trust and someone who's here for you when it matters most.



UNION

INSURANCE AGENCY, LLC

SUE MCCAMMON
Owner/Agent

"For all your MI and IN Insurance needs"
Personal and Commercial

CALL TODAY! SAVE YOURSELF SOME MONEY!

15479 U.S. 12 (next to post office) 269/641-5995
P.O. Box 74 sue@unionins.net 800/888-4095
Union, MI 49130 www.unionins.net FAX 269/641-5787

Auto-Owners
INSURANCE

LIFE • HOME • CAR • BUSINESS

Simply STUNNING



Have you seen the stunning stamped-concrete compass rose at the Birch Lake Yacht Club? This is just one example of the custom concrete services and products available to our friends and neighbors at Birch Lake. Interested in a new look for your concrete garage, patio or entrance?

Call us Today!

Lutz Concrete

SW Michigan's FLATWORK experts

17050 M-86 — Three Rivers, MI

269) 279-7973

mmtlconcrete@aol.com

BLYC Officers and Directors

2018/19 BLYC Officers

Angela Bergan Commodore...561-603-5522
berganfsu@aol.com

Pat McGann Vice Commodore
574-532-5377 pat@mcgannhay.com

Deb Spratt Treasurer (N).....476-2113
debspratt@comcast.net

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

Past Comm. Karen Curtis-Miller.....574-261-6712
karen.curtis-miller@bayer.com,

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

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

Fred Freihofer.....476-9823
cdfreihofer@aol.com

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

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

Sarah Petty (N).....476-7068
sarahkpetty@gmail.com

Vickie Rogers (C).....476-2383
tvrogers@frontier.com

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

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

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

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

Sandy Vitale (E).....476-1680
sv6102@gmail.com

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

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

2018 BLYC Directors

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

Ed Chester (E).....476-1010
ed@chesterlawoffice.com

Harold Cranmer (W).....574-264-6817
dhcranmer@yahoo.com

BLYC WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE

Paul Fallon, (E) Chairman, Water Quality and Homeowners Association476-1467
paulf@hrpconstruction.com



BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB

IT'S A NEW YEAR!

It's time to pay your 2019 dues



Support the BLYC, support our Birch Lake Community!

- \$___ - BLYC Member Dues (\$30 / year)
- \$___ - BLYC Associate Member* Dues (\$10 / year)
*Associate membership is available to current associate members
and for non-lake residents who wish to support the BLYC
- \$___ - Homeowners' Assoc. (\$10 / year)
- \$___ - Sailing Fees (\$15 / year)
- \$___ - Building Improvement Fund
- \$___ - Fireworks Fund
- \$___ - Water Quality Program
- \$___ - Milfoil/Loosestrife Eradication
- \$___ - Safety Committee
- \$___ - Other non-party related expenses
- \$___ - BLYC Roof Fund
- \$___ - BLYC AED Fund
- \$___ - Misc.

Total contribution:

\$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

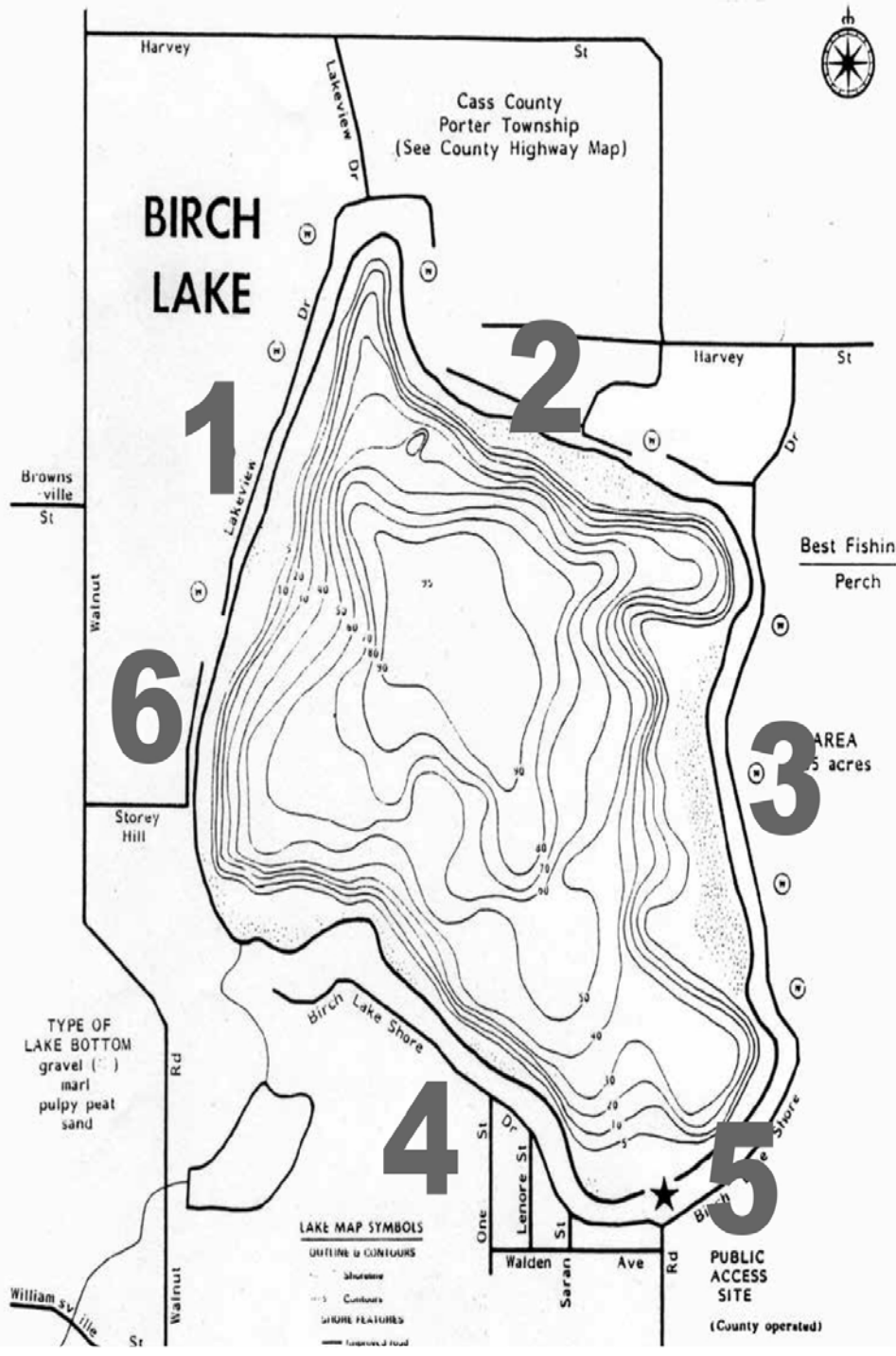
Make checks payable to
BLYC
and mail to Deb Spratt, Treasurer
18100 Farmington Hills Dr.
South Bend, IN 46637

EMERGENCY HEART DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) locations on Birch Lake

CALL 9-1-1



**FOR
EMERGENCY
USE ONLY
ALARM WILL
SOUND**



There are six (6) automated external defibrillator units on Birch Lake. The boxes that contain these devices are located at the following locations (see map):

1. **West Shore, Sheffieck home,**
62875 Birch Lakeview Dr.
2. **North Shore, Smitley home,**
14859 Birch Northshore Dr.15046
3. **East Shore, Vitale home,**
63174 Birch Rd.
4. **South Shore, Eberhart home,**
15046 Birch Lakeshore Dr.
5. **South/East Shore, Troeger home,**
63696 Birch Rd.
6. **Southwest Shore, DeYoung home,**
63255 Storey Hill St.

All units are on the ROAD SIDE of the property and accessible by vehicle or on foot.

IN AN EMERGENCY:

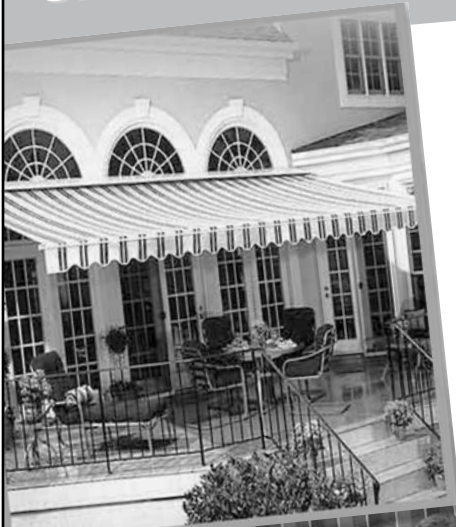
1. CALL 911 and report the emergency and the patient's location immediately.
2. Pull the box open, remove the orange-colored unit, TAKE IT TO THE PATIENT and open the device by pressing the white lever at the bottom.
3. An automated voice will guide you through the setup and use of the defibrillator. Follow the instructions as they are given.
4. Continue to follow the instructions as given, and stay with the patient until help arrives.

We've Got You Covered!



**SUMMER'S HERE!
CALL US TODAY!**

- **Retractable Awnings for Deck & Patios**
- **Motorized Solar Screens**
- **Boat Covers and Tops**
- **Canvas Repair**
- **Aluminum Awnings**



SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATION

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



**Locally owned
and operated
since 1985**

**SUN
& SHADE
AWNING**

12291 Bidelman Road • Three Rivers at Big Pleasant Lake

269 244-5307
www.sunandsshadeawning.com