

The
Weekend
Of

June 22
2019

Birch Barker

The official summer publication of the
Birch Lake Yacht Club



The lake was treated on Monday of this week for the control of invasive weed species.

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Hello Birch Lake Residents,
In this edition of the Commodore Notes for the Birch Barker we are going to discuss the largely successful spaghetti dinner, that loud hair dryer on the lake and what's to come. We begin with the soggy spaghetti dinner which, even though it was on a less than desirable day, it did not stop Birch Lakers from showing up and going mudding. With a whopping 269 tickets were sold, 232 people were served, the Yacht Club was a buzzing with excitement. A big thank you to the Niezgodski Family for their hard work and dedication in pulling this dinner off with such a great turnout. A job well done to the ticket sellers, spaghetti scoo-

pers, cheese shakers, salad ladies, bread breakers, dessert divvy-ing, and ticket takers. Much like the yummy spaghetti served that was a mouth full!

The money raised for the dinner goes towards water quality which brings us to the next item. Please keep in mind, this was the last spaghetti dinner we know of as of right now. If you are interested in continuing this tradition please attend the next board meeting (July 20) to express your interest or reach out to Pat or I.

What is that loud hair dryer on the lake? Well the air-boat on the lake Monday morning sounded like a giant hair dryer of a hover craft. It was here to treat the Invasive Eurasian Water-milfoil. If you aren't aware of this annoying species I recommend reading up on it, because it cannot just be easily pulled out of the lake. It has also been suggest-

Tentative 2019 Birch Lake Calendar

June 22 - Celebration of life for Terry Curtis, 4-7 pm
June 29 - Comm/Vice Comm Party, BLYC
July 6 - Boat parade, 4 pm; Firework, dusk
July 7 - Pancake Breakfast, Camp, 8:30-11
July 26 - Men's Golf Outing, Pine View, 1:30
July 27 - Celebration of Life for LaVeta Scofield, west side, 1-5 pm
August 10 - Corn & Sausage Roast, TBA
August 17 - Homeowners Association annual meeting following board mtg.
August 17 - Fall Dinner, BLYC
October 19 - Crockpot Challenge, BLYC
Fall Dinner - TBA by VC/FC Pat McGann
BLYC Board Meetings: July 20, August 17; at BLYC beginning at 9 am
More info as available. Watch for updates!

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 —

ed that we buoy off the area. This area is on the east side of the lake between Sailor Phil's house to well past the O'Brien's. I also thought, at first, the idea of roping off this area made perfect sense to keep people from going through the weedy mess and dragging it around the lake. In the past when it was roped off, the fisherman thought it was a special hot bed of fish we were trying to mark, and started circling in like a vulture with its prey. So the best we can do is educate ourselves and anyone we see on the lake to stay clear if possible.

Which brings me to something I have been hearing a lot of, "why can't we just shut off public access to our lake?" The short of this story is it might be a discussion worth having. This would affect our ability to get funding from Michigan DNR to help us with invasive species. The last time I checked we can barely get every home to join the Birch Lake Yacht Club or the Homeowners Association, we would need more funds and even more support to consider the actions required to make our lake pri-

vate. We only have around 100 yacht club members, and even fewer members of the Homeowners Association.

What's next? Pat and I would love for each and every one of you to attend the Commodore / Vice Commodore Party. The party will be Luau themed. We want you to wear your best Hawaiian attire and bring your little island girl or surfer dude. Prizes will be given to best dressed. Some items will be for sale to raise money for various funds and as always donations are welcomed for any charity on the lake of your choice. Please bring an appetizer, desert or snack, and come down to the Yacht Club for dancing and mingling. The party will begin at 6 pm and end at 8 pm EST -- you can continue to party on, just not at the Yacht Club. If you plan on partaking in adult beverages I would highly suggest having a buddy drive you or walking!

Last but not least, we have set the date for the Fall Dinner, which will be on August 17, 2019, where Pat McGann will announce his Vice Commodore.

Please see Pat's column (Fleet Captain), to learn more about him! So mark your calendar -- we hope to see you at the next few events on the lake.

Remember, be kind to one another.

~Commodore Angela

Men's golf outing is July 26

Vice Commodore Pat McGann has confirmed that the mens' golf outing will be held on Friday, July 26, with a shotgun start at 1:30 pm at the Hemlock Course of Pine View Golf Club in Three Rivers. Full dinner with Chateaubriand steak will follow at the course after the golfing. Cost \$60, with a cash bar.

Deadline is July 16 to register with the form in this week's Barker.

Birch Lake Book Club Schedule

The Birch Lake Book Club will meet on June 25 at 7 pm to discuss The Library Book by Susan Orlean. Blair Garceau will host. Everyone is welcome.

Our next book is Educated by Tara Westover. Claudia Phipps will host on July 30.

Birch Lake Yacht Club Spaghetti Dinner 2019



WOW! That was a Spaghetti Dinner for the ages! The event went well even though Mother Nature didn't cooperate very well. Thank

you to everyone who braved the elements and attended the event, also to those that donated their money and/or time to the event. 269 tickets were sold, 232 people were served, and over \$2,200 was raised to benefit Water Quality for Birch Lake!

First and foremost, a big thank you to everyone who jumped in and helped with the parking problems. Thanks to my son Bob for directing traffic and closing the driveway to the Yacht Club down. The parking situation could have gotten a whole lot worse. Also, thank you to the several people who lent a helping hand to push out any cars that got stuck in the mud. Jokes were going around that we should have held a mud sliding competition afterward to raise more money.

Secondly, thank you to Jan Temple and Tom Kuhn for providing us with a great outline and re-sources on how to organize the event. Their hard work on the previous two spaghetti dinners gave us a great foundation to build upon.

Next, we all owe a huge debt of gratitude to the incredible volunteers from the West Shore and the Cove, as well as so many others from around the lake. Their generosity and hard work resulted in another very successful event! Thank you to:

The Ticket Sellers - Linda and Buzz Rasmussen led the ticket sales team, Vickie Rogers, Tom Kuhn, Cam Butler, Patti Russwurm, Angela Bergen, Lynn DeCocker, Sue Williams, Katha and Mike Machalleck sold tickets, and Ronni Eshleman, who edited and printed the tickets;

The Sauce Cookers - My lovely wife Katie Niezgodski and our neighbor Tracy Goodin made the meat sauce, Carol Myers made the vegetarian marinara option, and Rick Doolittle made the Alfredo sauce, all of which were delectable;

The Setter Uppers - Marc Caenepeel, Lynn Caenepeel, Tracy Goodin, Kathy Niezgodski, Bob Niezgodski, Bud Hall, Vickie Rogers, and Steve Plaia helped to decorate and set up the Yacht Club the day before the event. Also, Janelle Andriano was a huge help in coordinating the delivery of additional paper and plastic supplies. She also wrapped all the plastic forks and knives before the event;

The Donaters - Stacia and Janelle Andriano provided all of the tablecloths and most of the other paper and plastic supplies. Cam Butler donated additional plastic forks and knives. Angela and Linda Bergen donated serving gloves, the Parmesan cheese, along with other supplies for cooking and cleaning;

The Pasta Cookers - Keith Kinzler, Jeff Smitley, Jamie Green, Steve Weiland, my son Bob and myself cooked 54 pounds of spaghetti. They were supported by a number of people. Tracy Goodin, provided the spaghetti, Angela Bergen provided the gluten-free spaghetti, Bill Butler provided the propane, Tom Rogers provided the tent to protect us from the rain, and Al Van Huffel provided a heavy duty colander for straining. Also, Katie Niezgodski and Vickie Rodgers cooked the gluten-free option;

The Welcomers - Denise Smitley helped me staff the front table and welcomed everyone to the event with her lovely smile;

The Servers - The sauce and spaghetti serving was captained by Mike Sheffieck and Vickie Rogers. They included Bob Baumgartner, Char Baumgartner, Marc Caenepeel, Kate

Crane, Ruth Kinzler, Tiffeny Kinzler, Claude Petit, Bruce Wagner, Wendy Wagner Cotton, Cam Butler, Steve Plaia, and Karen Curtis-Miller. Kathy Niezgodski and Tracy Goodin did a great job of warming the sauces. Lynn Caenepeel and Deb Hall provided and served the delicious salads. Carm and Debbie Soldato provided and served the fresh Italian bread and the tasty lemonade and iced tea. Julie Sheffieck and Tiffeny Kinzler served all the wonderful desserts;

The Dessert Makers- Included Julie Sheffieck, Jan Temple, Linda Rasmussen, Jeannie Welch, Michelle Seyfarth, Sherry Holleman, Linda Bergan, Beth De Young, Betty Goodin, Tiffeny Kinzler, Carla Chester, Patty Luecht, Blair Garceau, Dana Soldato, Lois Groszek, Carol McCoy, Kate Crane, and Vickie Rogers. There was quite the assortment of desserts all of which were delicious;

The Cleaners - Included Jim Calderwood, Nancy Calderwood, Carm Soldato, Deb Soldato, Bud Hall, Deb Hall, Marc Caenepeel, Lynn Caenepeel, Steve Plaia, Vickie Rogers, Tom Rogers, Cam Butler, Kathy Niezgodski, and Bob Niezgodski. The Yacht Club got cleaned up in a blink of an eye. Everyone just chipped in and did what was necessary to clean up.

Finally, a special thank you to my co-chairs, my son Bob Niezgodski and Kathy Niezgodski. I was the one who volunteered to Chair this event but they were the ones who really took it over and made this such a successful event.

If I forgot to list anyone above I truly apologize. We all thank you as well. It really took a lot of people coming together to pull this off for the ultimate benefactor or this event, our lovely and amazing Birch Lake.

Sincerely,

~Ron Niezgodski
Spaghetti Dinner Chair

Birch Lake Notes

Congratulations Dan & Sharon Waxman

Congrats to Dan and Sharon Waxman who celebrated their 35th anniversary last Saturday with an open house here at the lake. It was well attended by friends and family and the noshes were outstanding!

Weather wand missing?

So, at the risk of butting in, we wonders, did Past Commodore Karen forget to give Commodore Angela the Weather Wand? A lot less rain on weekends (unless at night) would be ever so nice, and maybe a bit 'o wind on Sunday? Thanks in advance!

Happy Birthday Bessie

Happy birthday wishes to Bessie Mae Shafer, Sandy's mom, who is spending the summer with us here at Birch Lake ... Rumor has it that she turned 91 on June 20! Here's to the next 90 years! We love you Bessie!

~Phil & Sandy

Remembering Terry Curtis

Just a reminder that today (Saturday, June 22) is the Celebration of Life for Terry Curtis. Please join us at the Yacht Club any time between 4 - 7 pm to share a memory or two. While there may be a few tears shed, we're looking forward to filling the building with smiles and laughter as we toast Dad with his beloved "hillbilly."

~Past Commodore Karen

BIRCH LAKE T-SHIRTS ARE ALMOST GONE!

If you're interested in getting a t-shirt, you need to act quickly. There are only Large, X-Large and XX-Large left in the Long Sleeve (which we've needed in all this dreary, rainy weather) and XXX-Large, Large and Youth Large in Short Sleeve. Two XX-L white sweatshirts are still available. Prices are \$15 for long sleeve, \$10 for short sleeve and \$20 for sweat-shirt. Cups are still available -- \$1 each or 10 for \$8. Call or Text me at 574-261-6712 (but be aware I have terrible cell ser-

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— Birch Lake Notes —

vice so it may be a minute before I get your message or am able to get a call/text back to you!).

~Past Commodore Karen

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 (**DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING INFO IS JULY 14**) so we can update and/or include the new information ...

The info we publish is:
Cottage number (if you know it);
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.net 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

The Birch Barker

The Birch Barker is delivered to your Birch Lake home every weekend through Labor Day - FREE of charge! It is also posted online every week 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 (reasonable) content (remember that this is a family publication and don't send things you wouldn't want your own kids to see). Deadline for submitting items for publication is always at 3 pm on the Tuesday of the week before publication.

If you would like to submit an ad or editorial item for consideration, email, mail or drop it by my house (see note at bottom of page 1). Do your best to send high resolution photos (we prefer 300 dpi); cell phone photos will work (sometimes) but can't be enlarged without blurring. If you want your materials back, include a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

If you would like to advertise in the



An exotic grass we bought from an area nursery (name withheld to protect the innocent) is ... invasive. When the first couple pioneers appeared it was OK, the seeds settled in places we might have planted a clump anyway but ... this spring the yard had hundreds of starts which were no fun to pull. Jut sayin'

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

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Birch Lake Spaghetti Dinner



Photos courtesy of the SparkyCam





FLEET CAPTAIN'S CORNER



Fleet Captain's Jibe #5, June 22

By J. Patrick McGann

Hello Birch Lakers! I am Pat McGann, your Vice Commodore of the BLYC. Commodore Angela asked me to tell you a little about myself and my history at Birch Lake.

I first started coming to Birch when I was 11-12 yrs old with Sarah Petty's (north side) uncle, John O'Brien, who was one of my best friends and neighbors growing up on the east side of South Bend. We actually met at Camp Eberhart at which we were both campers, then staff members for many years. The O'Briens had a summer cottage on the north side, where Sarah and her family live today. And before you ask... Yes, I do have a tile up in her famous Camp Eberhart-tiled bathroom.

We would fish and ski and explore both camps, yes there were two camps on the lake back then, and the swamp area across Harvey Street. John's little brother Major O'Brien had a pellet gun which we would take and try and shoot a bird, squirrel, sign or tree. I don't think we ever killed anything? It was a kid heaven.

When our kids were young we would rent a cottage for a couple weeks each summer on Diamond, Corey, Eagle or Birch. Three years ago we bought the A-Frame on the east side here on Birch from Marc and Eileen Golden. Marc's parents lived across the street from me when I was growing up in SB.

We now live in Granger, and I have been married to my beautiful wife Tessa for 42 years. We have been blessed with four kids and eight grandkids: Kelly and her husband ND Prof. Nick Laneman have six kids, and live in Granger near us. Shawn and his wife Dr. Maria Romano McGann, who have two kids, live in River Forest, IL. Bridget McGann lives in Chicago; and Collin and his wife, Jessica Hindsley McGann, reside in Denver, CO. They all visit Birch as often as they can.

I own McGann Hay Funerals | Cremations | Gatherings. We operate

five licensed facilities in South Bend and Granger. It is a long-time family business, and is the oldest funeral business in the state of Indiana. I am the sixth generation operator and third generation owner in my family. It was founded in 1842 by Fr. Edward Sorin, CSC, and Bro. Francis Xavier Bartholomew Crowley, CSC, two of the original seven missionaries who came over from France to start Notre Dame. My grandfather bought the Notre Dame Undertaking Parlor in 1911.

I learned to sail at Camp Eberhart and when I was on the staff, and I became very involved with the Corey Lake Yacht Club. Thus, two years ago when the Fleet Captain change was made, I was elected/appointed/last to step back/drew the short straw/got the low card, last year, and I have enjoyed continuing in that capacity this year.

Last year I was surprised and humbled to have been asked by Commodore Angela to be your Commodore for the year 2020, which I eagerly accepted. We love this beautiful place on God's Green Earth with the beautiful sunsets, and



we hope to enjoy it for many more summers. I often golf with the Birch Lake men. The people we have met here are terrific, and a number of them have become some of our closest friends.

Sail on Dudes and Dudettes ...

Respectfully submitted by:

~Fleet Captain Pat



Having hung a new Sunfish sail this spring (without much sailing) I am slowly discovering the weakest link ... and the next. Here are the new stainless steel interlocking eye-bolts and "S" hook made for Sunfish. Yes, you can just use hardware store stuff but, the real deal lasts longer. ~Mr. Bob (north shore)

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Teams are encouraged to donate a basket for the basket raffle not to exceed \$50/\$12.50 per team member

If you don't golf but would like to join us at noon for lunch, please register and pay \$12

If you'd like to volunteer to help serve lunch or be a hole sponsor please contact either:

Barb Cassady 574-303-2831 or Jeannie Welch 574-286-2890

Net proceeds to benefit Camp Tannadoonah

Registration Form

Team Members (list captain first with phone no.)

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

OR FOR LUNCH ONLY:

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Please make checks payable to BLYC and mail to Barb Cassady at
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— Barker Kids of the Week —



It was quite a good weekend for my neighbor John Luecht who not only got to carbo-load on spaghetti and all the fixins, but he also got to take selfies with BLYC Commodore Angela Bergan and northsider Patti Russwurm at the Spaghetti Dinner last Saturday night ... Way to go, John!

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— Barker Kids of the Week —

Four generations of women in the Shafer/Vitale clan gathered recently at our home on the east side. Pictured are Bessie Mae Shafer, seated in the middle, who celebrated her 91st birthday on June 20, surrounded by her daughter Sandy (seated at right), granddaughters Sanya and Erica Vitale (standing left and right) and great granddaughters Morgann Applegate (standing center) and Aley Vitale-Richards, seated left). On the advice of my attorney I'm not divulging the ages of any of the other women pictured.



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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 nego-
tiable. On the main level, a
foyer with a soaring ceiling
opens to the living room with

fireplace, a bar, a formal din-
ing room, and a family room
with lake views and a knotty
pine ceiling. The kitchen has
an island with breakfast bar
seating, stainless applian-
ces, 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
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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 ca-
sual dining, 1 BA. Street-side
lawn has wrought iron fence
and brick path to the home.



63126 Birch Road
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BLYC 59th ANNUAL Birch Lake Yacht Club

MEN'S GOLF OUTING

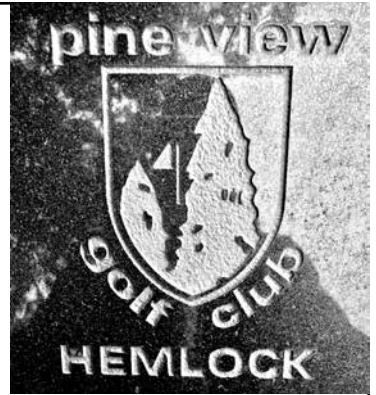
1:30 SHOTGUN START; FOUR MAN FLORIDA SCRAMBLE

FRIDAY, JULY 26, 2019 - \$60/MAN*

PINE VIEW GOLF COURSE, THREE RIVERS

DINNER TO FOLLOW (5:30 pm) AT THE COURSE

***Cost includes dinner (Chateaubriand steak); cash bar**



2019 BLYC Men's Golf Outing Foursome Information

TEAM CAPTAIN

Please submit your foursome and registration to Pat McGann, 63164 Birch Rd., Vandalia, MI 49095

Make checks payable to: BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB.

Individual registrations accepted. If you don't have a team, I can match you up.

Must have completed registrations by July 16



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— Water Quality Report —

The Second Commandment

It's time to review Commandment # 2, "Thou Shalt Minimize Surface Runoff."

It has often been said that whatever is around a lake eventually gets into that lake. Unfortunately that is typically true.

Whenever planning to develop, modify, improve or even landscape your property, please consider that:

- The fewer areas hard surfaced (by buildings, sidewalks, pavements, etc.) means less water is likely to runoff into the lake.
- The greater the distance between the hard surface areas and the lake means less water is likely to runoff into the lake
- This runoff often carries undesirable chemicals and objects into the lake.
- Before disturbing the earth you might be required to first obtain a "Soil and Sedimentation Control Permit."
- Installing a silt fence between the disturbed area and the shoreline to capture and contain runoff is typically

required.

- Capturing water and then piping it directly into the lake might only increase its velocity and minimize the chances that suspended solids will settle out before the runoff reaches the lake.
- Running the water into dry wells instead of directly to the lake allows the water to be filtered by the soil before it enters the aquifer (and eventually the lake).
- Although better than hard surfaced areas, lawns don't do much to slow down or filter the runoff.
- A barrier strip of thick, rooted native plants at and above the shoreline does help to both slow down and filter the runoff. While any width strip is better than none, a 6' wide minimum barrier strip has been suggested as desirable.
- A barrier strip of 2 – 3' (or more) in height will help keep geese off of your property. (They like to be able to see the lake.)

At all times, please remove or protect and carefully store any objects that are



likely to, whenever washed into our lake, damage our lake. Examples that come to mind are oils, fuels, fertilizers, ashes, leaves, trash, grass clippings, etc.

PLEASE PASS THE WORD

THE "SIX COMMANDMENTS OF BIRCH LAKE WATER QUALITY"

I. THOU SHALT PREVENT THE SPREAD OF AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS).

II. THOU SHALT MINIMIZE SURFACE RUNOFF.

III. THOU SHALT MINIMIZE THE EFFECTS OF WAVES.

IV. THOU SHALT PROTECT AND EXPAND NATURAL SHORELINES.

V. THOU SHALT NOT ALLOW PHOSPHORUS, NUTRIENTS, AND OTHER UNDESIRABLE CHEMICAL ELEMENTS TO ENTER OUR LAKE.

VI. THOU SHALT REMAIN INFORMED AND ACTIVE ABOUT OTHER WATER QUALITY ISSUES.

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YOUR HOROSCOPE

Aries (March 21-April 19) - Think before you do or say anything. Avoid family arguments this week. In fact, for the next four weeks, your focus will shift to your private life and anything to do with family relationships and where you live. There might be lots of discussions going on because renovations, repairs and visiting relatives are stirring up crazy energy at home. Your only recourse is patience because patience is the antidote to anger.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) - Financial matters might come to a head at the beginning of the week. In turn, this might be the reason that you have power struggles with someone, probably related to your daily activities. Whatever happens, the pace of your days is going to accelerate in the next four weeks because you are going to be busy! Plan on taking a short trip (or several). Expect to do more reading, studying and writing as well as juggling mucho errands, meetings and tasks.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) - You will have to be more understanding and diplomatic when dealing with partners and close friends. Something could lead to quarrels about money or possessions. Perhaps the ownership of something is under dispute? In turn, this will prompt a strong focus on your part on money and possessions for the next four weeks. You might wonder about your salary and want to boost your earnings.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) - You will feel tension and this will trigger difficulties with partners and close friends. Arguments are practically unavoidable. Don't try to make anyone over or "fix" things. Just let it be. Fortunately, on Friday, the Sun enters your sign where it will stay for the next four weeks boosting your energy and giving you a chance to recharge your batteries for the rest of the year. The Sun will also attract favorable situations to you as well as powerful people. (Not too shabby!)

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - Tension with a friend might take place, however, shortly afterwards, further tension might take place but it will be behind the scenes. You might feel annoyed and yet, muzzled for some reason because you can't speak up. You will want to keep a low profile and work alone or behind the scenes. Use this time to make some future goals and plan your year ahead. When the Sun enters your sign - suddenly, everything changes and you will display yourself in full dazzle!

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - You might feel pulled between the demands of home and family versus the demands of your career and your vacation. You might experience tension dealing with a group or a friend. Do not be critical. Do not be bossy. Do not offer advice. Be accommodating and reasonable. Following that, you enter a four-week interval during which your popularity will increase! S

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - Be mindful and pay attention to everything you say and do. Keep your eyes open. Think before you speak. This same advice applies for the next few days because midweek, it's easy to get into a fight with someone in a position of authority - a boss, parent, teacher or the police. Just coast because by the end of the week, you make a fabulous impression on everyone, which in turn, means it's your chance to go for the gold!

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Money disputes about shared property and inheritances might arise. Seer clear of politics, religion and racial issues because they will disintegrate into nasty arguments. The fact is you can never use reason to attack someone's prejudice. It won't work. By definition, a prejudice is not based on reason. Instead, make travel . You want adventure and a chance to learn something new! Sign up for a course to broaden your knowledge. Basically, you want to grab more out of life for yourself! And why not? You will never again be as young as you are right now.

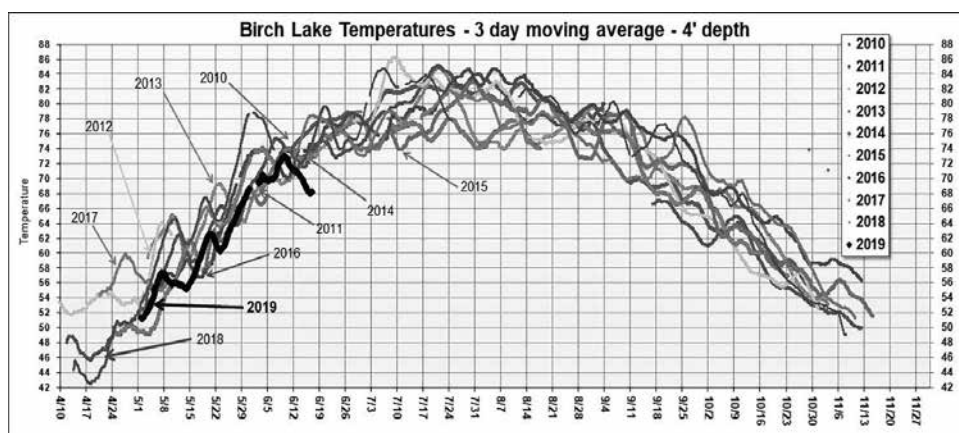
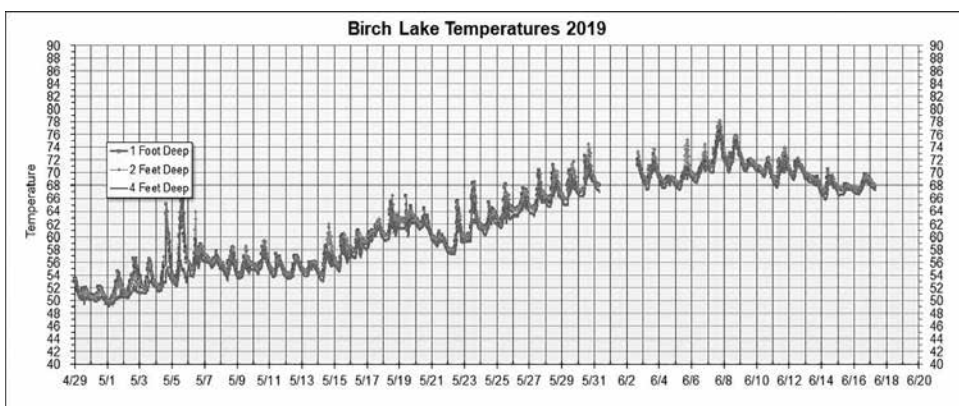
Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - On Monday, you might feel some tension when dealing with others. More likely, money squabbles or disputes about property or salary might take place mid-week. You have definite opinions about something. On Friday, you enter a four-week window of time that will be particularly intense and passionate. In fact, you will feel passionate about everything - including sex.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - You might feel a bit of tension at work. It might even cause a health issue or something related to a pet to come to a head, which forces you to deal with something one way or the other. Be patient with others because you might attract someone to you who is pushy, critical or demanding. Avoid arguments because they will drain you and accomplish nothing.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Avoid squabbles with friends and lovers. Likewise, be patient with children. Your mission is to be patient with coworkers because people will be testy, critical and in your face. Consider this an opportunity to cultivate patience. However, you will work hard and get better organized. You will give much thought to how you can manage your life better. It will be a great time to refine and hone your techniques and procedures.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - Avoid domestic arguments or difficulties with bosses and parents, and take it easy. Chill out. Lover's quarrels might arise. Some of you will have difficulty dealing with others if you work in the arts, show business or the hospitality industry. Just hang in there, you will have plenty of opportunities for parties, picnics, barbecues, fun-filled sports events, playful times with kids and romance! This same window of time will be perfect to slip away on a vacation because your primary motivation will be "Let's have fun!" (This is also a creative time.)

Birch Lake Environmental Data



Temps provided by Steve Quinlan

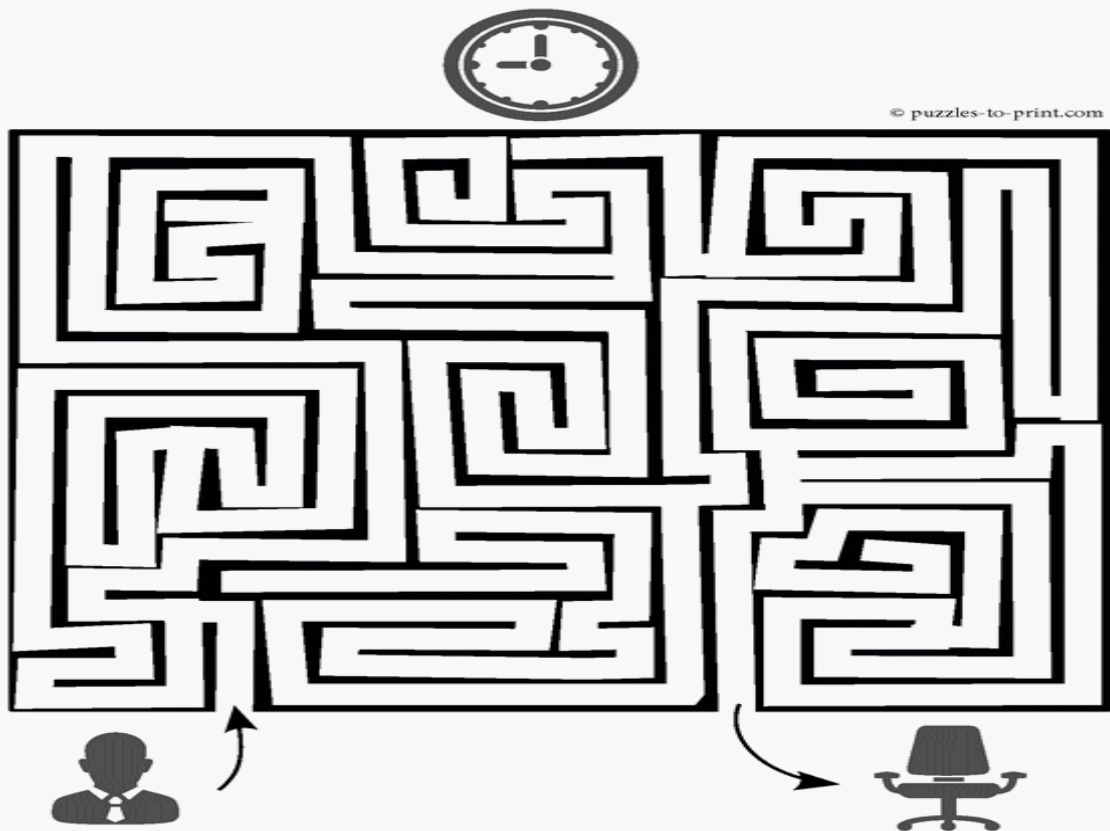
The Moon for this Saturday

(At Midnight, US Central time, as viewed from the Northern Hemisphere)
Illuminated Fraction: 0.692
2.1 days before last quarter



Sunrise: 06:05:58 AM
Sunset: 21:22:34 PM
Moonrise: 00:38:54 AM
Moonset: 11:00:27 AM
Daylight: 15 Hr 16 Min 36 Sec

— Barker Weekly Puzzle —



Roberto got stuck in traffic on the way to work and he is at the office door. Help him make it through the office corridors and to his own desk before he is late.



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BIRCH BARKER FUNNIES



It's a goat my Lord in a flatbed ford, slowin down to take a look at me....



If you hold a glass of beer to your ear you can hear the weekend!



AND THIS IS WHY WOMEN LIVE LONGER THAN MEN





~Birch Lake Recipes~



Provided Exclusively to the Birch Barker from Mrs. Ima Foodnudge

Marinated carrots

From the 2004
Birch Lake Ladies Luncheon
Recipe Collection

Marinated Carrots, by Marty Ball

- 1 lb. carrots slice thin
- $\frac{3}{4}$ cup vinegar
- 1 TBLS Worcestershire
- 1 teas mustard
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup Wesson oil
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 can tomato soup
- 1 medium onion chopped
- 1 cup chopped green pepper
- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup diced celery

Cook carrots until just tender. Combine vinegar, Worcestershire, mustard, oil, sugar and soup. Add onion, green pepper and celery. Add cooked carrots. Refrigerate several hours before serving.



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— Camp Tannadoonah —

Campers are here!

Campers are here! In fact, by the time you're reading the Barker this weekend, our first group of campers will be ready to head home!

This first week, we ended up having a total of 114 kids for week 1, which is a really big first week! We got off to a hectic start on Monday with cookout night being especially difficult because of very wet wood. Some of the cabins had trouble starting their fires, and getting it hot enough to cook their meals. We had hobo dinners – foil packets with ground beef and a variety of vegetables that you put right in the coals to cook. And of course we end the evening with S'mores!

We do a cookout every Monday night during the summer, and each cabin gets a box of supplies and a cookout site to prepare their food. We have several different cookout meals, and each week is different. Sometimes it's hobo dinners, or walking tacos, or campfire stew, or hot dogs, or sloppy joes. Then after cookout, the cabins have Cabin Night, which means they go out as

a cabin group and plan their own activity together. Some cabins play games on the sports field, some have "spa night" in their cabin, others do karaoke, or play card games or board games, or go caroling around camp!

Next week is Session two and Super Week. The Session two kids are here from Sunday through Saturday, like a normal week. The Super Week kids arrive Sunday, and stay all the way through to the following Wednesday – so they get 11 straight days of camp! We have a VERY full camp next week – with a total of 148 campers signed up! That's just two shy of our limit of 150! It will be a wild and crazy week of camp for sure.

Our total number of campers for the year is now 943, and we're still hoping to have a total of 1,000 for the summer. I think we will get there!

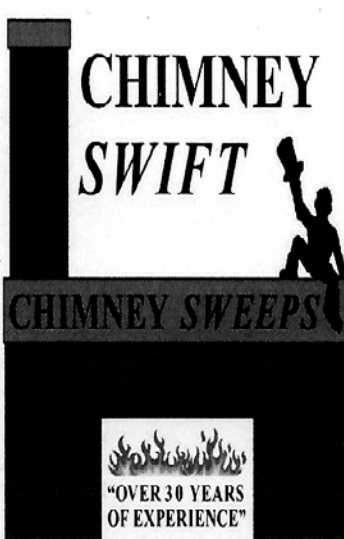
The theme next week is Wild West, and our staff committee has planned Square Dancing, a Wild West-themed Carnival, and a new game called "Cannon" suggested by

one of our new staff members this year. Apparently it involves creating a sling-shot like device that will allow the kids to launch a Beach Ball across the sports field, to try to knock over targets on the other team's side of the field. Sounds like a "Blast!"

Our Board is looking forward to once again hosting the Pancake Breakfast at camp on the weekend of 4th of July. As in the past, we will serve pancakes from 8:30 -11 am on Sunday, July 7. The price is still \$5 for ages 11 and up, \$2 for ages 6-10, and free for children 5 and under. We will have regular pancakes, some gluten free pancakes, sausage, coffee, juice, and fruit cocktail.

Last year we served nearly 500 people at the pancake breakfast, and hope to have even more this year! All of the proceeds benefit camp projects, including facilities updates, camperships, and special programs. Please join us on July 7!

~Miss Amber
amber@tannadoonah.org



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Schecter Diamond Series "Black Widow" electric guitar with case and Line 6, Spider III 30 Amp, used maybe 6x's. \$200 for both, negotiable. Call Deb at 476-7226.

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: 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

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

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.

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I do **sewing and mending** at fair prices - zippers, hemming, small alterations; call Kathy at 476-9317
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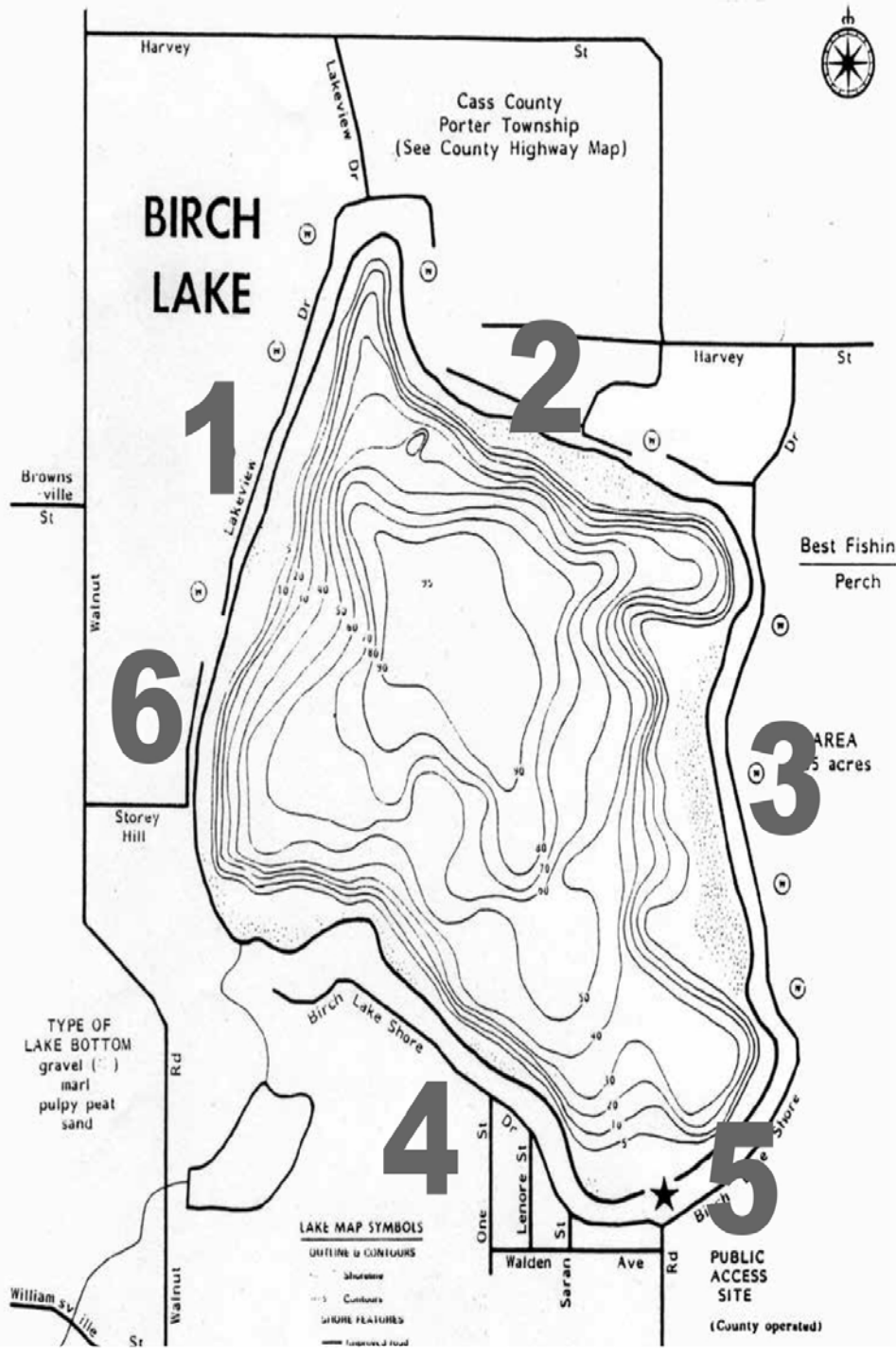
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3. East Shore, Vitale home, 63174 Birch Rd.
4. South Shore, Eberhart home, 15046 Birch Lakeshore Dr.
5. South/East Shore, Troeger home, 63696 Birch Rd.
6. Southwest Shore, DeYoung home, 63255 Storey Hill St.

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