

The
Weekend
Of

June 29
2019

Birch Barker

The official summer publication of the
Birch Lake Yacht Club



Thanks to Mr. Bob (King, north side) for the live action shot of the first MC start of the year.

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

You are Welcome Birch Lakers!
What am I talking about? I left last weekend and went to Canada and I packed the miserable weather and took it with me. Let's hope I unpacked it all in Canada and we can enjoy the rest of the summer. I heard the lake was beautiful this weekend and there were lots of Birch Lakers out to enjoy the weather. I also heard the memorial for Terry Curtis was well attended and it is so nice that people went to express their condolences and share their stories. It is important we make sure we are always building our community and supporting each other.

So this weekend will be the Vice Commodore / Commodore Party. It will be Luau themed, so break out your best Hawaiian shirt or board shorts. Prizes will be given for best dressed. Hawaiian leis will be provided to the first few who arrive early. The party will be from 6 - 8 pm. Due to the mud pit which used to be

the Birch Lake Yacht Club grassy area, we would like to urge you to ride share or even walk to the party. Please bring a yummy appetizer to share as drinks will be provided. I look forward to seeing you there and meeting each and everyone of you.

Next up will be the Boat parade which I will discuss in the next Barker. Just as a reminder the theme will be Best Summer Song for Boating, Cruising, Skiing and more. Please email me if you are planning on being in the boat parade so I know the number of boats to expect, a time can be provided and the number of prizes to get. Email berganfsu@aol.com or text me 561-603-5522. The boat parade will begin on the East Side at our pier.

Be kind to one another and enjoy the summer.

Take care,

~Commodore Angela

Thanks for the push

We would like to say Thank You, Thank You, Thank You to the group that helped us out of the mud at the

Tentative 2019 Birch Lake Calendar

June 29 - Comm/Vice Comm Party, BLYC
July 4, 6 - Fireworks Regatta; makeup races
Sunday if needed
July 6 - Boat parade, 4 pm; Firework, dusk
July 7 - Pancake Breakfast, Camp, 8:30-11
July 20 - Hogoboom family reunion, BLYC
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
BLYC Board Meetings: July 20, August 17;
at BLYC beginning at 9 am
More info as available. Watch for updates!

Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, June 15. They were busy helping a number of people. (We didn't get their names.) They were the heroes of the evening and very much appreciated!

~Reva Cheri and Tom Underwood

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 —

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 golfing. Cost \$60, with a cash bar.

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

BL Yacht Club now takes online payment

The Birch Lake Yacht Club has added a new secure website for residents to pay dues, donate to various causes, buy merchandise and pay to attend events. Please note that all fees are slightly higher when paying online. To check it out (or pay your dues), go to:

[HTTP://WWW.BIRCHLAKEYACHTCLUB.COM](http://www.birchlakeyachtclub.com)

BIRCH LAKE T-SHIRTS ARE ALMOST GONE!

Time is running out to get a Birch Lake T-shirt. Current inventory for white long sleeve (\$15) is five 2XL and four XL. White short sleeve (\$10) is one 3XL, three S and four youth L. The grey long sleeve shirts (\$15) have dwindled to three 2XL, one XL and one L. There are still Birch Lake cups left (\$1 each or 10 for \$8). Call/text me at 574-261-6712 or stop by the Aqua Pier!

~Past Commodore Karen

Thanks for saving us!

A great big thank you shout out to a few heroes on our fabulous lake! During last Sunday's sailboat races we had very rough seas! A couple of our sailors were tossed over by Mother Nature's wind and we are so thankful to Tom Kuhn for coming out to assist. All turned out great, but it's nice to know we have such great neighbors willing to be there for us! Then after the races were officially



Thanks to Mr. Bob (King, north shore) for the nice reflection photo of his new Sunfish sail ... not get out there and sail it, Bob!

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!**

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15_{MPH}**



Birch Lake Notes

over, the committee boat was ready to raise the anchors and head home. Unfortunately, the boat refused to start. The crew was not overly concerned! After all, what's wrong with being stranded on Birch Lake on a beautiful sunny afternoon? ABSOLUTELY NOTHING! But eventually the crew decided they had to go back to reality. After a quick distress call, the rescue team of my husband Bill, and favorite son, John, was on the way! Then, the super heroes, Keith and Kloe Kinzler appeared! They helped the damsels in distress pull up the anchors, and assisted Bill and John to guide the Bad Patty boat back where it belonged!

So, on behalf of the Committee Boat crew Deb Hall, Good Patti Russwurm and Bad Patty, we are so thankful to the wonderful neighbors that helped us out, Tom Kuhn, Bill and John Luecht, and Keith and Kloe Kinzler!!

You're the Best!!

~The Committee Boat Crew.

Birch Lake Book Club

Birch Lake Book Club will meet on July 30 at 7 pm to discuss Educated by Tara Westover. Claudia Phipps will host. Everyone is welcome.

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 one of the many 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 or online at www.birchlakeyachtclub.com. 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

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— Birch Lake Notes —

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, see note at bottom of page 1. Please 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 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

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 pub-

lished), 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 or know someone who is, please contact Phil Vitale at (269) 476-1680 or email me at onlinebarker@gmail.com.

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

Message sponsored by the BIRCH LAKE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION



The Joy's John at Birch Lake public landing

Despite the objections of multiple homeowners at Birch Lake, the Cass County Parks Department has placed a Joy's John on a concrete pad near the water at the Birch Lake public landing.

All indications are that it will be here throughout the summer season and will be here every summer hereafter.

If you have questions or an opinion -- one way or the other -- about this action, we urge you to reach out and voice your opinion by calling; 445-4456 or email ScottWy@cassco.org.

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— Water Quality Report —

Fish die-off, part 2

A couple of weeks ago we reported on an unusual event whereby a large number of dead fish were found along the northeast shore on Saturday, 6/1/19. These were primarily pan fish, in particular bluegills. In attempting to ascertain what the source of the problem was that led to the fish die-off, we offer the following.

1. We had not had the Eurasian milfoil treated so no herbicides had been introduced into the water as the die-off.

2. Since it was first noted in the northeast corner, could some pollutant or poison have been introduced via the stream from the wetlands? A couple of observations probably eliminate this from consideration:

A. Few if any, minnows were observed to have been part of the die-off

B. The accumulation of fish was after a strong southwest wind

C. We then received reports on 6/8/19 of similar numbers in this time frame accumulating on the southwest corner of the lake after a strong northeast wind. Thus, the die-off seemed to be general and again affecting primarily, probably greater than 90 percent, pan-fish. If the cause had been a poison or pollutant, we would expect more vulnerable populations to have been affected, especially minnows.

3. We contacted the DNR and Matt Diana, the fisheries biologist for the southwest part of the state, visited Birch Lake on 6/4/19 to document this event. On 6/20/19 we received his report for which a short summary is included at the end of this narrative. However, of import is the fact that the DNR has had a number of reports of fish die-offs in southwest Michigan this spring. One of note is Diamond Lake which made the news. Our event is not unusual this year. Although we had collected some samples, these were not of use as the fish coroners really need currently dying species which have not shown any decay. But of the fish he observed he saw no external signs of disease (ie lesions, sores, or fungus). The best explanation Matt had, and which is rational, given the

noted number of lakes affected, is the unusual spring following a hard winter. He speculated that this led to the fish entering spawning season in less than optimal condition and the cool spring prolonged the pre-spawn and spawning exertions of the fish. These are stressful times for the fish. Although the numbers are a bit shocking since we are used to only seeing the occasional dead or dying fish as a result of anglers catching and releasing, the numbers in relationship to the total population are minuscule. Matt said that these numbers should have little effect on the lake as a fishery.

4. Since the initial reports of the dies offs in the two corners of the lake we have not had a similar event occur, which helps with the stressful spawning speculation. We have also had reports of bluegill beds appearing under piers etc., indicating that life is getting back to normal for the fish. However, should you note unusual numbers of dead or dying fish please again report this to a member of the Water Quality Committee.

In the words of Mr. Diana: "We are getting a number of fish kill reports right now which leads me to believe that the winter and slow warm up has weakened the condition of fish throughout the region. Unfortunately Birch Lake was one of those lakes where it reached the point of initiating a kill. Based on the number of fish observed, I would not be concerned with the status of the fish population. Fishing should pick up, and I do not think enough fish died to result in significant decreased fish populations. All of the species



observed should reproduce readily and survive well. Let me know if you have any questions or need any follow up. It was good meeting you all. Hopefully next time it will be under better circumstances."

We are grateful to the Michigan DNR for their quick and careful service in this matter.

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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FLEET CAPTAIN'S CORNER



Fleet Captain's Jibe #6, June 29

By J. Patrick McGann

Hello Birch Lakers! We FINALLY got to start our regular racing season in sailing underway and what a day it was!

We had 15 boats with skippers and three crew members out there trying to prove their abilities to the onlookers and other skippers. There were six MCs and nine Sunfish participating. It was an exciting day to be sailing, wind-wise, with lots of white caps much of the time. I saw at least two of the boats in the Sunfish Fleet capsized and one turtled, which means the mast was pointing straight down into the depths of Birch Lake. I hope it did not kill any more fish, God knows there has been enough dead fish already to last the whole summer! Both sailors were able to right their crafts and continue in the races.

After not sailing for over a year because of Wrigley, his dear dog who has been ill, Jeff Smitley had an amazing and impressive first race back, and took home a victory in race number one

in the MC Fleet. Scott Troeger continued his winning ways by taking the "W" in both races two and three. Barb Cassady made an impressive runner up finish in all three MC races. Scott, Bill Luecht and I all had a third place finishes in one of the races.

What can I say about Peter Soldato except that the Sunfish fleet skippers will be glad to see the "new sad" move on up to the MC Fleet, soon? Peter sailed to the victory circle in the first two races, and Past Fleet Captain Mike Lutz crossed over the finish line first in the third race of the day. Rick Russwurm, Bob Niezgodski and Stewart Spratt each took second place respectively. Thirds were claimed by Mike, Stewart and Bob.

All and all it was a great day for sailing on Birch Lake. I had my grandson Nathan Laneman, age 14, as my crew. It was his first time racing and I think he found it very thrilling to be in a competitive race, but he was glad he did not have to skipper the boat in that big wind.



NOTE: Our traditional July Fourth Fireworks Sailing Regatta will be on Thursday the actual 4th, with other races on Saturday July 6th and make-ups on Sunday. No Monday Sailing.
Sail on Dudes and Dudettes!
~Fleet Captain Pat



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Birch Lake Sailing Results

2019 BLYC Season Sailing Results

Race 24..... 25..... 26..... Total Point..... Captain's Points... Average..... Total

Total MC Races 3

Date	25-May	25-May	25-May	23-Jun	23-Jun	23-Jun	Total	Point	Races %
Race	1	2	3	4	5	6	Points	Average	Finished
Jeff Smitley #2002				1	DNS	DNS	1600	1600	33.3%
Scott Troeger #1489				3	1	1	4644	1548	100.0%
Barb Cassady #2506				2	2	2	4563	1521	100.0%
Bill Luecht #1579				5	4	3	4109	1370	100.0%
Phil Vitale #500				4	DNS	DNS	1369	1369	33.3%
Pat McGann #1735				6	3	4	4038	1346	100.0%

Total Sunfish Races 6

Date	25-May	25-May	25-May	23-Jun	23-Jun	23-Jun	Total	Point	Race %
	1	2	3	4	5	6	Points	Average	Finished
Peter Soldato	DNS	DNS	DNS	1	1	4	4569	1523	50.0%
Stewart Spratt	DNS	DNS	DNS	4	3	2	4334	1445	50.0%
Mike Lutz (Blue/Red/Yellow)	3	4	5	3	4	1	8522	1420	100.0%
Pat McGann	4	2	4	DNS	DNS	DNS	4259	1420	50.0%
Herb Cleveland	2	1	2	5	7	5	8390	1398	100.0%
Bob Niezgodski	5	3	3	7	2	3	8305	1384	100.0%
Steve Frew	1	5	1	6	5	6	8242	1374	100.0%
Rick Russwurm (Green/Blue)	DNS	DNS	DNS	2	6	DNS	2746	1373	33.3%
Camille Butler	6	6	6	8	8	DNS	5853	1171	83.3%

DNS (Did Not Sail) does not count against season score, however sailor must complete 2/3 of races to qualify for season.....DNF (Did Not Finish), DSQ (Disqualified) scores as one place worse than last place (if 5 boats finished, you would have finished 6th, will be scored as 7th place).

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

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

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

Season Place = total season points/number of races attempted

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

Ladies' FUN!!! Golf Outing - JULY 19

Diamond Lake Golf Course, Cassopolis

9 AM Tee Off - \$35 per golfer (fee includes cart and lunch)

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

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:

1. _____

Please make checks payable to BLYC and mail to Barb Cassady at
63486 Birch Road, Vandalia, MI 49095

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION IS JULY 9

— Barker Kids of the Week —



If you wait long enough, they grow up and give manly help to rebuild the deck. Van Huffel grandsons (south side), Mason Talos and Jacob Bishop, pose with their demolition gear.



This is Claude Petit's (south side) great nephew Remi from France. He was here with his parents, Claude's nephew Fredrique and Remi's mom Annie this month, while visiting Chicago and Birch Lake. They all enjoyed Birch Lake very much. Remi enjoyed the Pontoon and being Co-captain with a Great Uncle Claude.

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— Barker Kids of the Week —



Left: Samantha spent the day at the lake with Grandpa Dennis Tudor (west side)



Above: Raegan had 10 ("mostly rainy"!) fun-filled days at Birch Lake with Grandma Jan (Temple) and Papa T (Tom Kuhn), west side, while dad and mom (Scott and Sara Sortal) enjoyed their cruise along the shores of Alaska.

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— Barker Kids of the Week —



Above: Quinn, Ryne and Sarah Howard were day guests of Bud and Debbie Hall (Cove). Sarah is Debbie's niece.



Above: Aurorable Trudell, granddaughter of Amy Lutz (north side) is a delight in her crown of flowers!



Right: Addie Howard enjoying a boat ride while visiting with the Halls (Cove)



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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 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



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.

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.



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1:30 SHOTGUN START; FOUR MAN FLORIDA SCRAMBLE

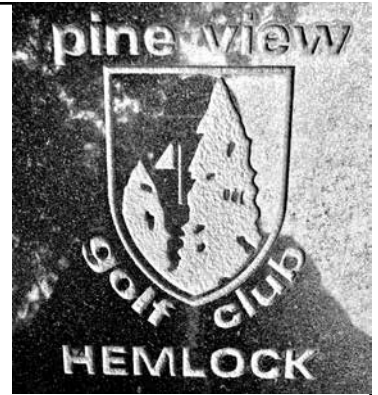
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Cost includes dinner (Chateaubriand steak); cash bar



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

or go online at WWW.BIRCHLAKEYACHTCLUG.COM to pay (\$63 online; \$60 by check/cash).

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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YOUR HOROSCOPE

Aries (March 21-April 19) - You're facing increased activity and chaos at home due to renovations, redecorating projects, visiting guests or residential moves. Whatever the cause, there are demands on your time; plus this chaos is creating tension among family members. In addition, some of you are in touch with an old flame. This is exciting but sobering. You might also have to deal with old issues with your kids that have resurfaced.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) - Both the Sun and fiery Mars join forces to create a fast-paced agenda of short trips, errands, tasks reading and writing plus conversations with everyone. Fortunately, you have excellent moneymaking ideas, even though you're hemorrhaging money on beautiful things. Meanwhile, retrograde Mercury attracts relatives and old friends who are going to camp on your doorstep, sleep on your sofa and eat out of your kitchen. The plus side of Mercury retrograde is that you will easily finish home repairs.

Gemini (May 21-June 20) - Hold onto your hats you really "feel" each Mercury retrogrades a double whammy because it occurs in your Third House of communications, travel and ground transportation. This is the real deal. Expect delays, mixed-up communications, problems with cars, buses and trucks, computer glitches and cell phone hiccups plus contact with siblings from the past as well and neighbors back in your life.

Cancer (June 21-July 22) - You will handle this Mercury retrograde with finesse because the Sun and Mars in your sign are giving you energy, drive and focus. Nevertheless, this particular Mercury retrograde is in your Second House of earnings, financial matters and possessions. The downside of this is that check's in the mail will be late and financial matters (as well as purchases) will be delayed. Be extra vigilant to avoid damage or loss to anything that you own. This is a poor time to initiate financial matters or moneymaking ideas.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - This is an interesting week. Your energy is relatively low and you will welcome solitude or a chance to work alone or behind the scenes. Admittedly, the placement of Venus does encourage schmoozing with friends, especially creative, artistic types. Almost certainly, old friends from the past and ex-partners are be back in your world. Be smart and look good when you go out because living well is the best revenge.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - This continues to be a popular time, which is why you're involved in groups and clubs, perhaps competitively. You are physically involved and putting out energy! You look fabulous to bosses, parents and VIPs. In fact, a flirtation with someone in a position of authority might begin. This bodes well for you. It will really help you do research and dig into the past if you want to learn something, especially if you want to explore your own hidden psyche.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) - The Sun is still at the top of your chart, shining a flattering light on you, which is why you look so fabulous in the eyes of authority figures. You make a great impression, however, Venus beckons you to slip away for some fun travel or explore consciousness-expanding experiences and beautiful places because your appreciation of beauty is heightened. You will hear from old friends.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Things are looking swell! After all, this is a year where you get richer! Right now, you want to explore further your education, and perhaps travel and explore ideas in publishing, the media, medicine and the law to discover ways to extend your reach in the world. You want more out of life! This is your lucky month! However, this particular Mercury retrograde is sitting at the top of your chart, which means interactions with parents, especially from the past, will resurface again. You might also run into bosses and authority figures you haven't seen for a while.

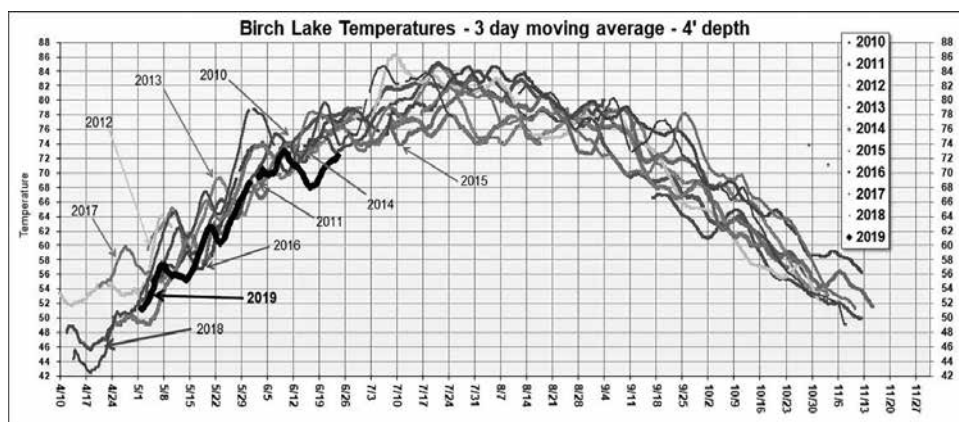
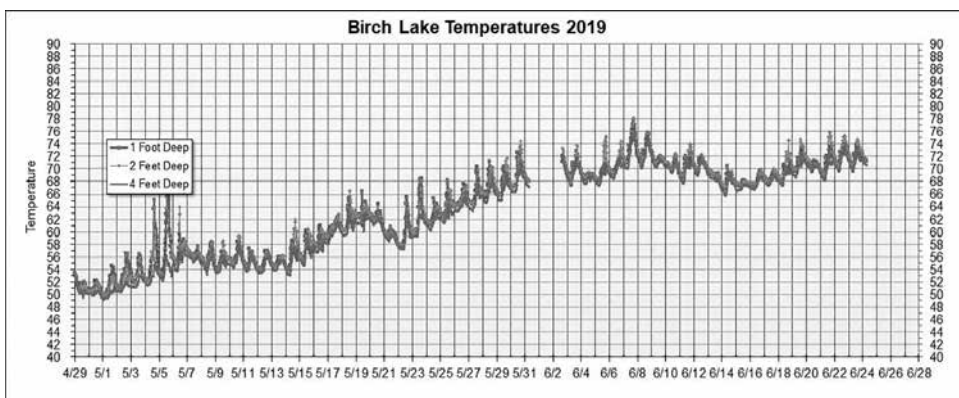
Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Enjoy this blessing while it lasts because you won't have it again until 2031. Right now the placement of the Sun and Mars makes you intensely passionate - sexually as well as passionate in every aspect of your life. Mars indicates there might be disputes about inheritances and shared property. Fortunately, Venus right opposite your sign, creates warm relations with others, especially partners and close friends.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - This continues to be a time when you need more sleep. This could be because you feel drained being at odds with someone. They are so annoying. Actually, this is the perfect opportunity to cultivate patience because you can't practice patience when everything is fine. You need to feel irritated! Fair Venus continues to promote warm relations with work colleagues, bosses and customers. In fact, everything at work looks pretty solid. However, expect delays and errors related to banking, taxes, debt and inheritances and insurance issues.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - This week you will work hard and play hard. You're working hard because you want to get better organized but also at a deeper level, you want to manage your life more efficiently. Mars continues to give you drive and energy to achieve your aims, which is why this will be a productive week. Things will not be all work and no play because Venus insists you take time out for fun, entertainment and having a good time.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - It's play city for Pisces and you want the freedom to do exactly what you want. And what you want is to have a good time! You will be more lighthearted and ready to enjoy the company of others, especially romantic connections. Fun activities with kids, sports events, musical performances and the arts will appeal. You want the freedom to express yourself and do your own thing!

Birch Lake Environmental Data



Temps provided by Steve Quinlan

The Moon for this Saturday

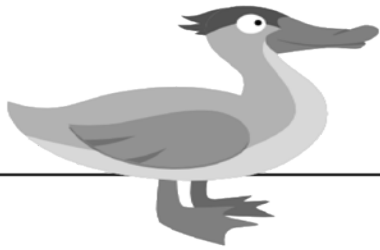
(At Midnight, US Central time, as viewed from the Northern Hemisphere)
Illuminated Fraction: 0.507
0.1 days before last quarter



Sunrise:
Sunset:
Moonrise:
Moonset:
Daylight:

— Barker Weekly Puzzle —

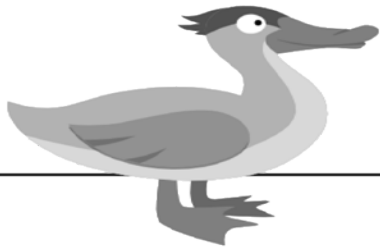

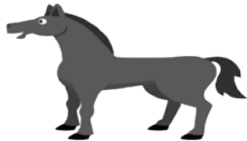



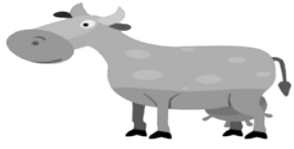


Name _____



ON THE FARM

Word Scrambles

DIRECTIONS: Write the name for each picture on the dotted line using the scrambled letters.

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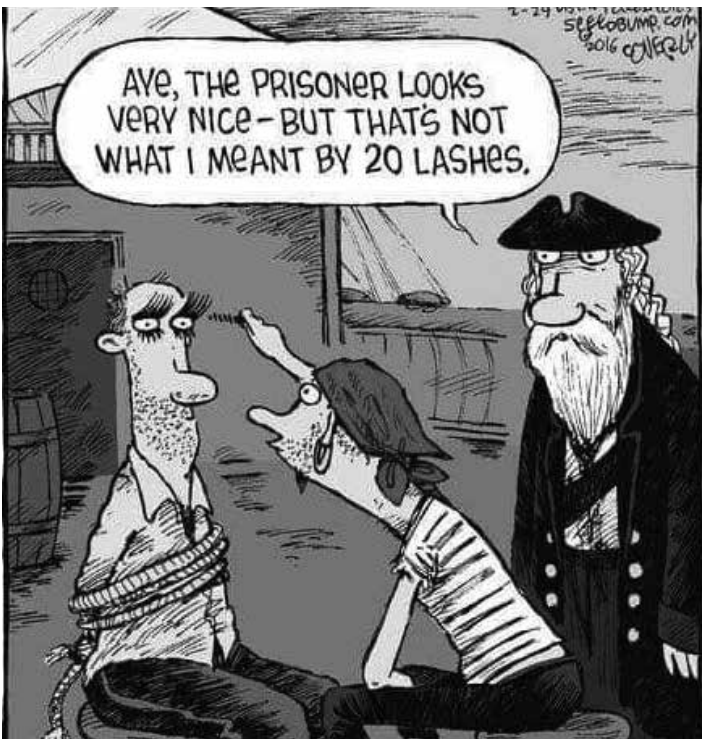
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BIRCH BARKER FUNNIES



I feel sorry for people who don't have dogs. I hear they have to pick up their own food if they drop it on the floor.

Where's your stupid little spray bottle now, Karen?!



I finally did it!

As I was getting in bed, she said, "You're drunk".
I said, "How do you know?"
She said, "You live next door."

**Bought a new pair of shoes with memory foam insoles.
No more forgetting why I walked into the kitchen.**



~Birch Lake Recipes~



Provided Exclusively to the Birch Barker from Mrs. Ima Foodnudge

Overnight French toast

From the 2004 Birch Lake Ladies Luncheon Recipe Collection

by Bev Kruggel

Ingredients:

- ½ cup butter
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- 1 loaf bread (the dryer the better!)
- 5 eggs
- 1 ½ cups milk

Directions:

Melt butter in an 9 x 13 pan. Add brown sugar & cinnamon. Layer bread in double slices. Mix eggs with milk. Pour over bread. Cover and refrigerate overnight. Take out and let get to room temp if possible. Bake uncovered for 45 minutes. Can be topped with fruit, powdered sugar or brown sugar and cinnamon.



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— Camp Tannadoonah —

Yea! It's Super Week!

It's SUPER WEEK this week! That means that some of the campers are here for 11 straight days of camp, from Sunday, June 23 through Wednesday, July 3. We have a full week of camp this week – every bed in camp is full! It's so much fun to hear so many kids singing camp songs, playing games, and laughing all over camp. It will be quite different next week for "Mini Camp," when we only have 70 campers here for the 3 day mini session! Next week's mini camp theme is "Party in the USA," in honor of the 4th of July Holiday.

We've been so excited this week for the good weather. It's been so wet and muddy at camp, and we are glad to see the puddles drying up and the sun shining! It certainly makes the waterfront go more smoothly when we're not dodging thunderstorms and having to pull all our boaters off the water because we heard rumbles in the distance.

On Sunday evening there was severe weather in the South Bend area, with tornado sirens going off and at least one confirmed tornado. We were very grateful that none of that severe weather came our way, but we had lots of parent phone calls about what we do at camp in the event of storms.

All the stormy weather led to a lot of questions about how we handle weath-

er emergencies here at camp. During staff training, we spend time discussing procedures and what to do in different situations. Miss Michelle and I each carry walkie talkies with built-in weather radios. Whenever there is a storm watch, we alert all of the counselors in camp, just to make sure they stay aware of what's going on. We have several different signals for severe weather, so if a counselor doesn't hear the message over the radio, we also blow the air horn or ring the big bell outside Main Lodge to signal an emergency.

If a tornado warning is issued, or if the storm gets bad, we immediately bring all of the campers to two central locations: The Dining Hall and Morris Lodge. Both of these buildings have basements, so they are the safest places in camp to bring the kids. During the time we're waiting out the storm, we sing camp songs and play games to keep the kids calm. We monitor the weather radar and radios, and if it gets bad, we move the campers to the basements. We also do periodic drills with the counselors to make sure they stay sharp and remember all of the proper procedures for various emergency situations.

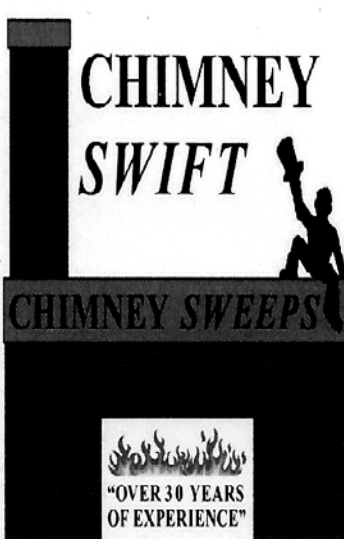
While the weather situation is unfolding, we keep parents informed of what is going on via our camp Facebook

group for parents, and also via text message. We use a system called "Remind," that allows us to send text alerts out to all the parents who have signed up. It's great to be able to send a quick message letting parents know that everyone is safe. After we get the all clear and send kids back to their cabins or back out to activities, we follow up with posts on Facebook, Remind text messages, and an email to all the parents whose kids are here. We always feel it's better to over communicate than to not communicate enough in an emergency situation!

We're looking forward to seeing everyone next weekend at the Pancake Breakfast! We will be serving pancakes, sausages, fruit cocktail, coffee, and juice from 8:30a - 11 am on Sunday, July 7. All of the proceeds from the Pancake Breakfast go to supporting projects and programs at camp, so please bring your whole crew out to eat and help us fund our ongoing facilities improvements, and scholarships for camp! The cost is \$5 for ages 11 and up, \$2 for ages 6-10, and free for children 5 and under. We will have a limited supply of Gluten Free pancakes for those who request them. And as always, we will have Camp T apparel for sale! See you next weekend!

~Miss Amber

amber@tannadoonah.org



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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.

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.

FOUND

Found: **small red and black Attwood buoy** found in the Cove

Sunday, June 23, Call 476-2090

WANTED

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

FOR RENT

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CLASSIFIED ADS

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*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 _____

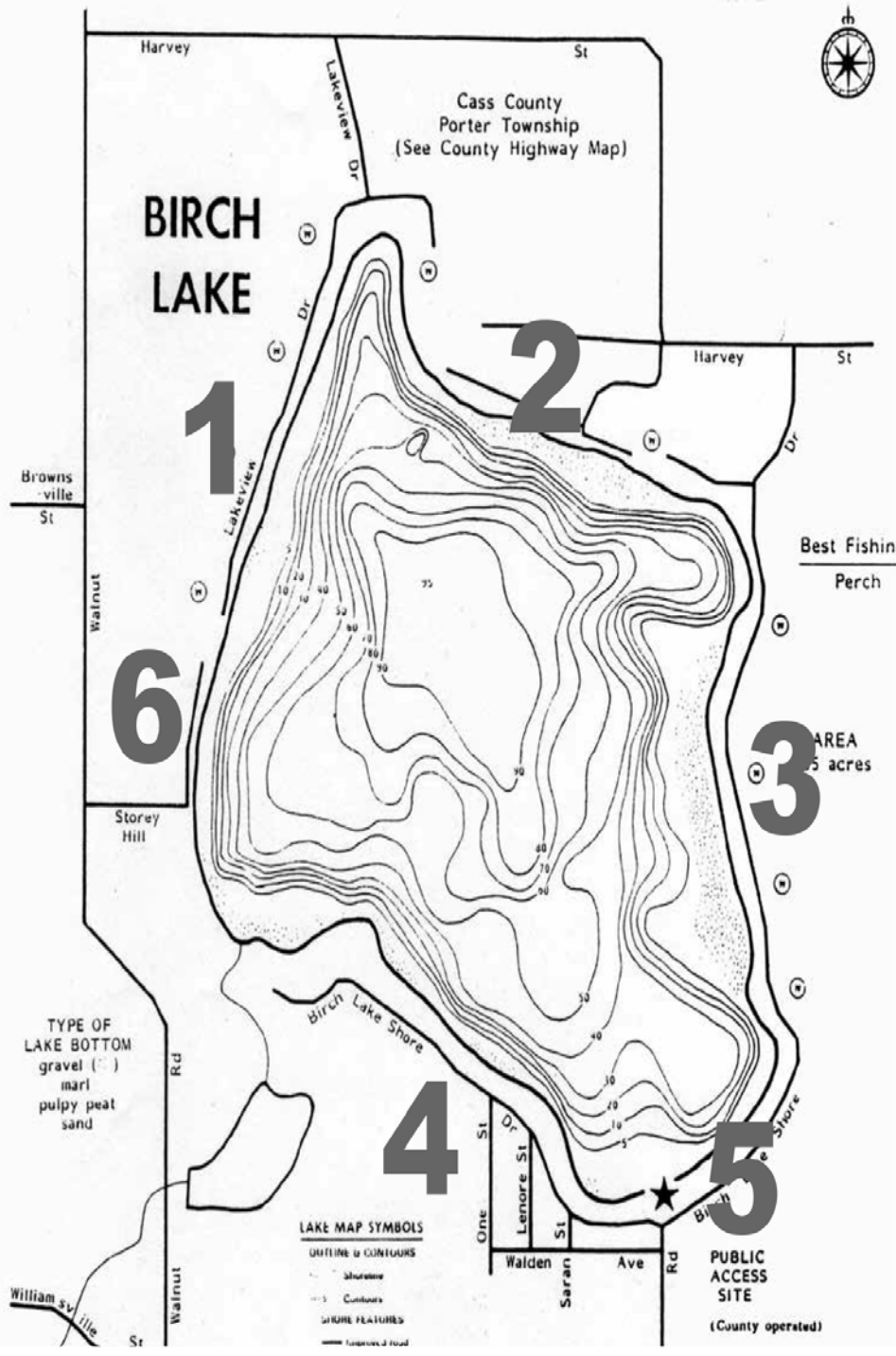
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2. North Shore, Smitley home, 14859 Birch Northshore Dr.15046
3. East Shore, Vitale home, 63174 Birch Rd.
4. South Shore, Eberhart home, 15046 Birch Lakeshore Dr.
5. South/East Shore, Troeger home, 63696 Birch Rd.
6. Southwest Shore, DeYoung home,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

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