




**The  
Weekend  
Of**

**July 6  
2019**

# Birch Barker

The official summer publication of the  
**Birch Lake Yacht Club**

Located at Latitude 41.9153; Longitude -85.8793



Thanks to "Good" Patti Russwurm for the beautiful pic of the Sunfish on Birch Lake!

## COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

**A**loha Summer and Birch Lake 4th of July Patrons! What a great event the Commodore/Vice Commodore party turned out to be. If you weren't there you missed out. We had some great looking boogie-board-short guys and some lovely island ladies. It was a great time where we got to get reacquainted or just acquainted. I appreciate everyone who attended and contributed to making this a wonderful time with some delicious food. John Luecht and Macy McGann won best dressed for their tropical attire. A special thanks to our Bartenders former Commodore Karen Curtis- Miller, Eric Miller and Bruce Wagner.

Additionally, thank you to Pat

## 2019 Birch Lake Calendar

- 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!*

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



## Don't be a victim; be vigilant; beware of thieves!

Every year we have a rash of thefts and burglaries around Birch Lake over the Fourth of July weekend! This weekend, don't be a victim, be vigilant. Lock your cars, close garage

doors, don't leave valuables in your boat, and be alert of unusual activities. In case of emergency call 911; the non-emergency phone number is 445-2481.

Message by the Birch Lake Homeowners Association

The Birch Barker is always accepting materials for publication. E-mail materials to [sailorphil@philvitale.com](mailto: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](mailto:berganfsu@aol.com).

# — Birch Lake Notes —

McGann for his beverage skills and assistance to pull of this event. As well as a thank you for my decorating committee Linda Bergan, Bruce Wagner and my husband. On to the Forth!

The Fourth of July festivities begins this weekend. The Boat Parade begins at 4 pm EST starting on the East side at our dock, look for the Big FSU Flag. We do ask you register for the Boat Parade, a time will be provided for your float. Why are we doing this? Well it prevents everyone from congregating at the same time and reduces traffic to flow in a smooth manner. I also ask you register, so I have a number of prizes for your attendance. We will have four judges who will be evaluating your boat float based on presentation, theme, creativity and overall score. So please be mindful of the Boat Parade patrons, and make sure you steer clear if you are on the lake enjoying the water in another capacity.

Next, will be the fireworks which will begin on Saturday night as dusk. So, make sure you are firmly planted in the area you want to be to watch the big bangs! This also should provide you with a time frame to put our furry family members in a confined area where they won't be frightened by the noises. I wanted to commend each one of you for your contributions to the Fireworks this year. We have met our donation budget! You can continue to contribute after the show or ask your family members to chip in if they enjoyed it.

I also want to thank John and Trish Stitz and their family; Lauren, Nolan and Claire for their recent contribution of some great Lake Girl apparel that was sold at the Spaghetti Dinner. The contribution of the sweat-shirts and shirts allowed us to add an additional \$200 towards lake quality.

Which brings us to some good news about the water quality. The Eurasian Mil-foil is shrinking a bit, so the recent treatment and warm weather have caused the



*The Commodore and a few neighbor friends at the Hawaiian-themed Commodore/Vice Commodore party.*

# 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<sub>MPH</sub>**



# Birch Lake Notes

curly leaf pond-weed and Eurasian watermilfoil to retreat a bit. Keep doing your part by staying clear of the area and don't drive through that section of the lake. A reminder it is the area on the East side of the lake in front of Sailor Phil's to well past our previous commodore Karen Curtis Miller's home with the teal pier.

Lastly, I just want to make sure everyone has a safe and fun weekend. Some reminders; make sure you are driving at an appropriate speed, be mindful when on the water, have a look-out if skiing or tubing. If you are kayaking, try to stay around the perimeter of the lake. Let's make sure we are driving in the correct directions. Wear a life jacket or know where they are located, it is better to be safe than sorry.

For motor vehicles, let's also be careful and slow our speeds on the roadways around the lake especially this weekend. Make sure you lock your cars and keep your keys in your pocket or purse and not in your car to avoid theft. We need to make our company aware of the recent rash of car and home break-ins.

Sorry to lecture everyone, I just want all of us to be safe and secure. Be kind to one another!

Take care,

**~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 shot-



## HANG ON TO YOUR UMBRELLA!

*Or at least screw it in ... a gust of wind on Sunday shot table umbrella up like a missile on Petit roof (south side).*

gun 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.

## Kings expecting gusts

We Kings look forward to hosting friends and family on Independence Day and through the weekend. Liz Kramer, Cal's GF, is with us for the week and we are excited to have her parents, Steve and Mary Kramer (Dodge Center, MN), with us through the Holiday. Perennial partiers Ric and Lisa Dwenger (Muncie), and Chuck and Karen

Horn (Carmel) arrive Thursday. Rumor has it Sarah Elizabeth (Horn daughter) may attend with friends? Cal's crew comes in on Friday (be afraid, we have no idea how many to expect). As opposed the semi-permanent porta-potty at the landing, ours is just temporary (walkers are welcome). Profound apologies to all our neighbors.

**~Mr. Bob (King, north side)**

## BL Yacht Club online payments

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.BIRCHLAKEYACHT-CLUB.COM](http://www.birchlakeyachtclub.com)

## 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.

Our next book is Beneath a Scarlett

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# — Birch Lake Notes —



## The Joy's John at Birch Lake public landing

Despite the objections of multiple homeowners on Birch Lake (including the owners of the properties on either side), 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 and every summer hereafter. **If you have objections, questions or opinions that you would like to express, you are encouraged to attend the next Cass County Park Department Board meeting on Thursday July 11 at 9 am in the Annex Building of the old courthouse in Cassopolis on the 2nd floor.**

Sky by Mark Sullivan. Jeannie Welch will host.

### 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 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](http://www.birchlakeyachtclub.com).

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, 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.

~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 published), we need you to provide your information (**DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING INFO IS JULY 14**) so we can 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](mailto: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](mailto:onlinebarker@gmail.com).



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# — Water Quality Report —

## Invasive species at Birch Lake

### **Eurasian Milfoil:**

We began monitoring aquatic vegetation in Birch Lake in 2001. We were part of a Michigan Lake & Stream program that mapped the aquatic plants in Birch Lake. Howard Wandell provided professional assistance to the Birch Lake Water Quality Committee. The mapping project revealed that Birch Lake had a moderate plant population consisting of a good variety of species none of which dominated. At that time the survey determined that we did not have Eurasian Milfoil. In 2007 Eurasian Milfoil was discovered at three sites. Progressive AE provided professional assistance and is still under contract. Professional Lake Management treats the Milfoil and treated a one acre site this year on the east side.

### **Growth characteristics:**

Eurasian Milfoil is an aggressive, tall-growing exotic aquatic plant from Europe and Asia. It is capable of growing to the surface in 12 to 15 feet of water. At the surface, it forms a dense canopy of vegetation over other plants. Many native plants may be reduced in abundance by Eurasian Milfoil canopy. Consequently, this plant can form dense colonies covering much of a lakes littoral zone. Being an exotic, it has few natural biological control agents so it can dominate a lake for many years. A few biological control agents have been found. Some lakes have seen significant declines in Eurasian Milfoil after 10 to 20 years. Control of other aquatic plants reduces competition and appears to allow Eurasian Milfoil to maintain a greater coverage for a long period.

### **Habitat:**

Eurasian Milfoil may be found throughout the littoral zone out to depth of 20 feet.

### **Nuisance traits:**

Its tall growth pattern conflicts with many recreational activities. In dense conditions, it is a serious localized and lake wide problem. It is not a significant food crop for waterfowl, other birds or aquatic mammals. It readily regenerates from detached fragments and spreads rapidly.

### **Curlyleaf Pondweed:**

When we began monitoring aquatic vegetation in 2001 a small amount of Curlyleaf Pondweed was discovered and

removed. In 2006 we revisited known sites established from the previous plant survey. No Curlyleaf was found. Currently it has been present in the spring when Progressive AE performs the survey. The Curlyleaf is not a concern because when the water temperatures rise it dies out.

### **Growth characteristic:**

Curlyleaf Pondweed is an aggressively growing exotic aquatic plant from Europe and Asia. It is capable of growing to the surface in 8 to 10 feet of water. At the surface, it forms a canopy of vegetation. It is one of the first plants to begin growing in the spring, reaching the surface before many native plants germinate from the sediments. Consequently, it can form dense colonies covering much of a lakes littoral zone by early summer. It usually dies back dramatically to minimal levels by mid-July. Curlyleaf Pondweed can produce special reproductive pine cone-like structures called "turions", which are highly resistant to herbicidal damage and help spread the plant.

### **Habitat:**

It may be found throughout the littoral zone out to a depth of about 12 feet.

### **Beneficial traits:**

It is a fair fish food provider, and is used by waterfowl for food.

### **Nuisance traits:**

It conflicts with many recreational uses and can be a serious localized and lake-wide problem.

### **Purple Loosestrife:**

The Birch Lake Water Quality Committee started the Purple Loosestrife Management Program in 2000. The program has been a great success. In 2000 we had 10 sites on all shores of Birch Lake. Some of which were very dense. We continue to monitor for Purple Loosestrife each year and remove the plant that we find. Typically, we find two or three sites per year. This occurs in July and August when the plant blooms. If you see the plant or suspect a plant might be Purple Loosestrife, please call a Water Quality member to check it out.

### **What is it?**

Purple Loosestrife is a plant that was accidentally introduced into the United States and then distributed



as an ornamental. It is most easily identified during its flowering period from July to September. The spike shaped "purple" flower can be seen in ditches, streams, rivers, lakes, wetlands and other moist, shallow water sites. This plant is an upright, hardy perennial, four to eight feet tall and most often found in a group.

### **Effects:**

Purple Loosestrife invades marshes, ditches and lake shores quickly replacing cattails and other native wetland plants. These plants form dense stands that ducks, geese, muskrats and frogs can not use for food or cover.

### **Spread:**

Purple Loosestrife will grow from the roots of an established plant, however, the plants spread mainly by seed. Having up to 300,000 per stalk these tiny seeds can live in the soil and water for many years and can be transported great distances by humans, animals and water. The seeds can be transported to other wetland areas via the mud on birds and ducks' feet, in the fur of muskrat, mink and beaver, or on the shells of turtles. Humans can also unknowingly transport the seeds via the mud on their shoes, boots, waders and clothing.

## 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.

## News Flash/Reminder:

**PARTICULARLY IF PARTICIPATING IN PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE OR OFF OF A 100% STABLE VESSEL, WEAR A LIFE JACKET, VEST OR WHATEVER!**

This last weekend the body of a wake surfer was pulled out of a 30' – 60' deep area of Clear Lake, near Angola, Indiana.

The surfer was not wearing a flotation device. At this time we don't know of any details, other than the fact that the victim was not wearing a flotation device.

Please don't let this fate befall anyone you know or love, or anyone using our lake. Make sure anyone doing anything even slightly risky in or on the water is wearing a flotation device.



# FLEET CAPTAIN'S CORNER



## Fleet Captain's Jibe #7, July 6

By J. Patrick McGann

Commodore Angela is to be commended for an outstanding Commodore/Vice Commodore Hawaiian Luau last Saturday night at the Yacht Club. If you see Angela please remember to tell her what a good time it was.

Once again, in this season of "only regatta sailing" with next to no regular season races, we could not sail again last Sunday because of lack of winds. It did give me an opportunity to go to Lord of the Lakes, outdoor chapel church at Camp Eberhart with my family. It is very nice if you are Catholic, or not, at 10 am right next to the shore of beautiful Corey Lake ... lots of Birch Lakers and others from Diamond, Corey and other lakes around the area.

I was working yesterday, last Sunday, around the back of my house when I heard a huge crash and the telephone polls and wires suddenly snapped the poles actually moved about five feet and I thought I was a goner. Scared the do-do out of me. It turned out that a long standing dead shagbark hickory tree fell across the road and onto a pontoon boat down the road a few cottages on the east side. Thank goodness for a great neighbor with a tractor that had a

front end loader came to the rescue to move it out of the way unblocking the road.

**SAILORS:** The fourth of July Firecracker Regatta will be Thursday on the 4th and Saturday the 6th, with make-ups if needed on Sunday.

Let's see if we can't get some of those boats sitting on lifts around the lake that never get out there, this week out to enter the races.

**GOLFERS:** We are accepting registrations now online at the bottom of [www.birchlakeyachtclub.com](http://www.birchlakeyachtclub.com). \$63 or give me a check or cash for \$60. We are scheduled for Pine View Golf Course on Friday July 26 with a 1:30 pm shotgun start. A nice dinner to follow at the course. Cash bar cart on the course.

Also, the Fall Dinner is set for Saturday August 17 before everyone leaves, to give us one last chance to say goodbye and talk about your fall and



winter plans.

*Sail on Dudes and Dudettes!*  
~Fleet Captain Pat

# SAILBOATS ALWAYS HAVE THE RIGHT-OF-WAY!



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# — Barker Kids of the Week —

*Jim Bradfield and Denny Weesner (southside) had their great-grandchildren visiting last week from California and Florida.*



*Forrest Hall (cove) enjoying an afternoon on his master's boat!*



*We have white swans on Birch but ... black swans are, by nature, rare. Guess a pink swan is exceedingly rare? Though a bit wide in her girth, we have it on expert opinion (per Bad Patty, an expert if any) that the enormous new Birch bird is indeed*

*a flamingo. Submitted by Mr. Bob (King, north side) with the subject line "Floatie of the Week."*

## 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**

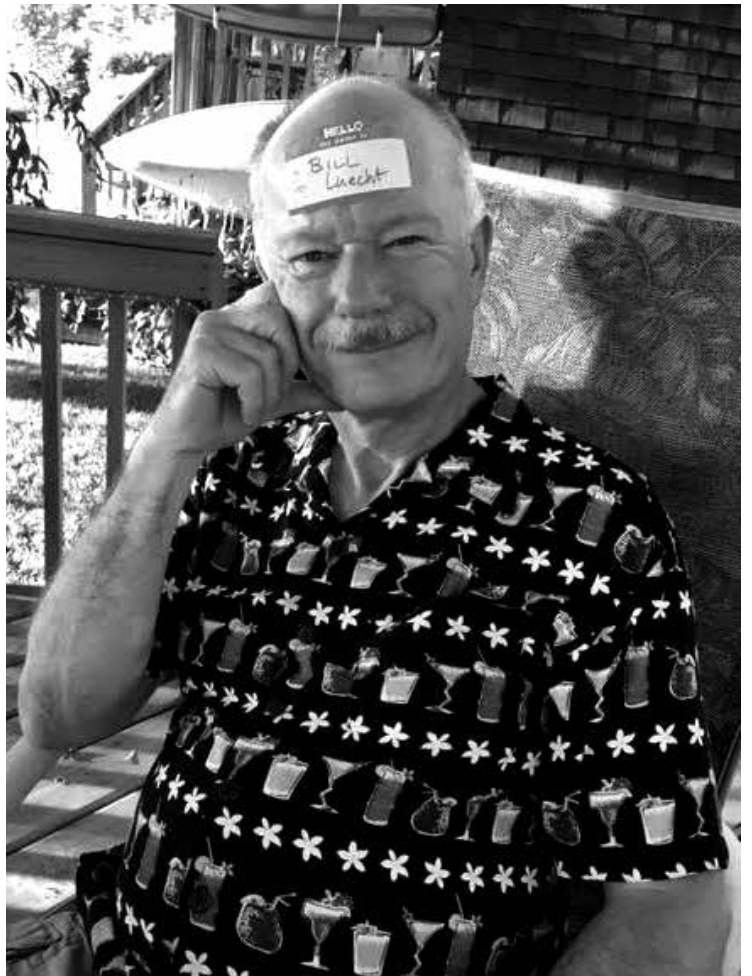
# — Barker Kids of the Week —



The Right Reverend Bruce (Wagner, Cove) showing off his Cabana Boy shirt at the Comm/Vice Comm party (left), and relaxing in the shade and taking a chance at birchacola.



Mystery photo: Pat McGann found this mug shot of a high school classmate of his in an OLD!!! year-book ... Guess who it is and win a used fertilizer spike for your garden! Hint: Pat and the MM both attended John Adams in South Bend (not sure if either graduated though).



That's my neighbor, Bill Luecht (I know because it says so on his forehead) after the Comm/Vice Comm party last weekend. Alcohol may have been a factor ...

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](mailto:SAILORPHIL@PHILVITALE.COM)

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# — Barker Kids of the Week —



*Ok, we've previously had a fish pic on the KOTW page, so in the interest of "equal time" we're publishing this turtle "friends" pic from Mr. Bob ...*



### **Tennis Anyone?**

*Not to be outdone by the fish or Mr. Bob's friendly turtles, Paula DiRutigliano (south side) sent in this pic of the soft-shell on the tennis courts ...*



*McGann/Laneman cousins at Pat and Tessa's (east side). Baby Dominic was 9 months and on his first visit to Birch Lake.*

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# — Barker Kids of the Week —



### A Barker First!

Thanks to Pat McGann for sending in what is believed to be the first-ever Lawnmower of the Week ... leave it to Fancy-Sox-Pat to be a trend setter!



### Mom's Rule - Chair of the Week

Do you have a nice chair but no time to sit in it? Long ago Le King (north shore) issued an edict: you can work as hard as you want until the 4th of July, but then stop working and play until Labor Day. Have a seat ...

*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  
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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

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](mailto:SAILORPHIL@PHILVITALE.COM)

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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.



### 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. \$415,000

**OUT OF INVENTORY!**

**LISTINGS NEEDED!**

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# BLYC 59<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL Birch Lake Yacht Club MEN'S GOLF OUTING

1:30 SHOTGUN START; FOUR MAN FLORIDA SCRAMBLE

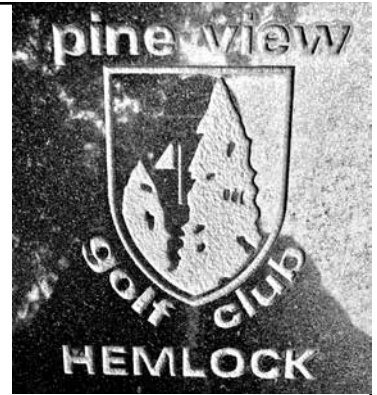
**FRIDAY, JULY 26, 2019 - \$60/MAN\***

**PINE VIEW GOLF COURSE, THREE RIVERS**

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

*\*\$63 if you pay online at [WWW.BIRCHLAKEYACHTCLUB.COM](http://WWW.BIRCHLAKEYACHTCLUB.COM)*

**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.BIRCHLAKEYACHTCLUB.COM](http://WWW.BIRCHLAKEYACHTCLUB.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)** - Even though your focus is on home, family and your private life, nevertheless, your ruler Mars will give you the courage to express what you are and be bold and energetic. It promotes opportunities for vacations, romance, increased activity with children and a chance to assert your true self. Old flames might be back in the picture due to Mercury retrograde. Please note that Wednesday, Friday and Sunday are bad days to shop.

**Taurus (April 20-May 20)** - Because both fiery Mars and retrograde Mercury are taking place at the bottom of your chart, you are entering a time where everything to do with home and family is disruptive, combative, challenging, hectic and full of change! Expect to hear from relatives you haven't seen for a while. This is a great time to do repairs you've been postponing.

**Gemini (May 21-June 20)** - Get ready because Mercury will create transportation delays, communication mix-ups and misunderstandings with others. At the same time, Mars makes you identify with your opinions and be argumentative. You will fight back if anyone disagrees with you. Therefore, be calm and think before you speak. The good news is your finances are favored and you want to shop for beautiful things. Please note that Wednesday, Friday and Sunday are poor days to shop for anything other than gas and food.

**Cancer (June 21-July 22)** - The Sun in your sign gives you power and boosts your health; plus it expands your sphere of influence. Venus in your sign (for the next six weeks) makes you charming and diplomatic. You are more attractive, which is why this is the month to shop for wardrobe goodies. Mercury goes retrograde in your House of Earnings, which means checks in the mail will be late and financial matters will be delayed. You might misplace items. Avoid shopping Wednesday, Friday and Sunday.

**Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)** - The Sun and Venus continue to make you want to enjoy solitude in beautiful surroundings. Nevertheless, Mars and retrograde Mercury are active in your sign making you aggressive and busy. Life will be challenging. Expect mixed-up communications, delays and misplaced items. However, the good news is that you will easily finish things you've been meaning to do forever. Whatever has been lingering for months (or years) will now get completed. Finally!

**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** - Venus now joins the Sun to boost your popularity, especially with creative, artistic people. Meanwhile, retrograde Mercury and fiery Mars are hiding in your chart, which definitely is an indication that secrets will come up in the next few weeks and skeletons from the closet will say, "Boo!" Fortunately, this same influence will facilitate any kind of research you need to do or any attempt on your part to find solutions to old problems or answers from the past.

**Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)** - The Sun still makes you high viz and attractive to bosses and VIPs. You will be asked for input about design, layout, office redecorating or PR work in the next few weeks. Meanwhile, Mercury retrograde will attract old friends from the past back into your life. You might feel competitive with someone. Many of you will be involved in physical sports and group activities. Whatever the case, you shine!

**Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** - You're eager to travel and learn something new because you want to expand your world. You're turned on by new ideas, new concepts and talking to people who are exploring new paths as well. Obviously, this is the time to travel for pleasure and learn for your own enjoyment. Meanwhile, Mars has now moved to the top of your chart arousing your ambition as never before! The last time this happened was two years ago. You've got the bit in your teeth and you're determined to succeed.

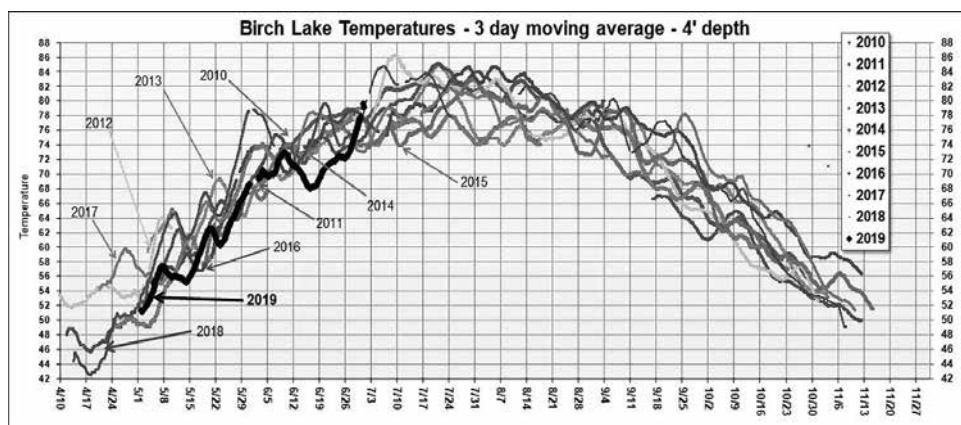
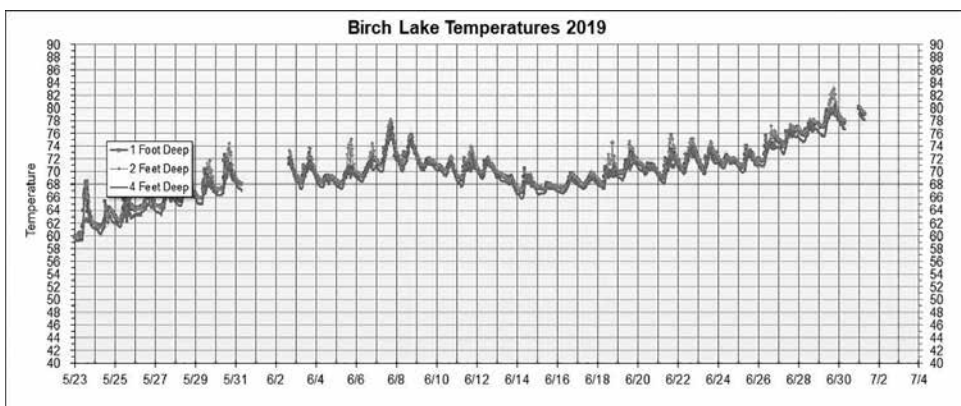
**Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** - Life is intense. Whether it's politics, backyard gossip, family dramas, your job, financial issues - everything matters! The word casual isn't even in your vocabulary. Naturally, this passion extends to intimacy. If you are traveling, ideally, go someplace you have been before. And definitely, double check all details, reservations, itineraries etc. as well as give yourself extra time to deal with the unexpected. Bon voyage!

**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** - Close friendships and partnerships continue to be important. This is considered the best position for all relationships, marriages, love affairs and partnerships. You will be able to express your affection easily to others. In addition, you will have a better understanding of where they're coming from and so you will be more patient and understanding. Even your relations with your enemies will improve! Meanwhile, back in the boudoir, fiery Mars is in a sexual part of your chart, heightening your sex drive.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** - You're happy to work hard and you're also motivated to work. You want results for your efforts, which is why you're working smarter. This is also why you're thinking about how to best manage your life. This is opportune that you find work and health to be rewarding. Furthermore, you will attract ex-partners or old issues with current partners back into your world. Be patient, tolerant and use skillful means dealing with loved ones.

**Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)** - Grab every opportunity to go on a vacation. Accept invitations for social occasions, the arts, sports events and fun getaways. You will also enjoy playful activities with children. Romance can flourish as well as the arts because you are very much in touch with your muse at this time. Work hard so you have the energy to cope with the unexpected. Your entire month ahead will favor relating to children as well as love affairs.

## 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: 0.256  
 2.2 days before first quarter

**Sunrise: 06:12:16 AM**  
**Sunset: 21:21:34 PM**  
**Moonrise: 10:36:22 AM**  
**Moonset: NO MoonSet**  
**Daylight: 15 Hr 09 Min 18 Sec**

# — Barker Weekly Puzzle —

## July Fourth Word Search



ADAMS  
AMERICA  
BARBECUE  
COLONIES  
CONGRESS  
DECLARATION  
EQUALITY  
FIREWORKS

FOURTH  
FREEDOM  
HOTDOGS  
INDEPENDENCE  
JEFFERSON  
JULY  
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# BIRCH BARKER FUNNIES

NEVER BUY A DOG WHEN YOU'RE DRUNK



MOM



DAD



DIET DAY 1:

I HAVE REMOVED ALL THE BAD FOOD FROM THE HOUSE. IT WAS DELICIOUS.





# ~Birch Lake Recipes~



*Provided Exclusively to the Birch Barker from Mrs. Ima Foodnudge*

## Gert Temple's Grilled Salmon

### From the 2004 Birch Lake Ladies Luncheon Recipe Collection\*

Marinade 1-2 hours  
¼ cup brown mustard  
6 Tbls sugar  
¼ cup white vinegar  
2 teas. dry mustard  
6 teas. fresh dill (chopped)  
Stir in 6 Tbls. olive oil

Chilled Topping  
Add to 1 cup plain yogurt:  
4 teas. fresh dill (chopped)  
2 teas. fresh parsley (chopped)  
1 Tbls. fresh lemon juice  
1 teas. onion powder

Grill:  
Remove salmon from marinade and lightly sprinkle with paprika  
Grill salmon  
Reserve some of the unused marinade and brush on salmon the last 3-4 minutes.

Serve with chilled topping

*\*Thanks to Denny and Ronnie for the recipes ...*



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# — Camp Tannadoonah —

## Loving the hot weather!

**H**appy holiday weekend! All of us at Camp are on a much-needed couple days break from camp!

This is approximately the midway point of summer for our staff – they're here for 1.5 weeks of training, followed by 2.5 weeks of camp. When we get back from the break, we have 5 more weeks of camp, and we're done on August 10. It will fly by for sure!

We are looking forward to seeing many of you at the Pancake Breakfast on Sunday morning (July 7) up here at Camp Tannadoonah. We will be serving pancakes, sausage, fruit cocktail, coffee, juice, and milk from 8:30-11 am. 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.

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! And as always, we will have Camp T apparel and souvenirs for sale!

This next week is Session 3 at

camp, and we have (as of today) 99 campers registered, and believe it or not, that's our SMALLEST week-long session of the summer! The only session smaller than that is our mini week, which is only 3 days of camp. We have a total now of 979 campers registered for camp, so I'm really hoping we'll be able to get to our "stretch" goal of 1000 kids for the summer.

We still have room for more campers in Session 3 (July 7-13) and Session 6 (July 28-August 3), so if you're thinking about sending a camper, please sign up soon! Session 3's theme is Pirate Week, and Session 6 is Super Hero Week. Our staff have lots of fun stuff planned, including a game of "Capture the Swashbuckler" (aka Capture the Flag), a Pirate Hunt (like hide and seek, but they're searching for their counselors who are hiding!), and a game of Sponge Wars: Pirate Battle. For Super Hero Week, we're having a Name that Movie Tune battle, and a night of Tannadoonah's Got Talent.

We've been loving the hot weather at camp these past couple weeks! Lots more campers go down to the waterfront for activities when it's hot outside. On Saturday, we had our "Super

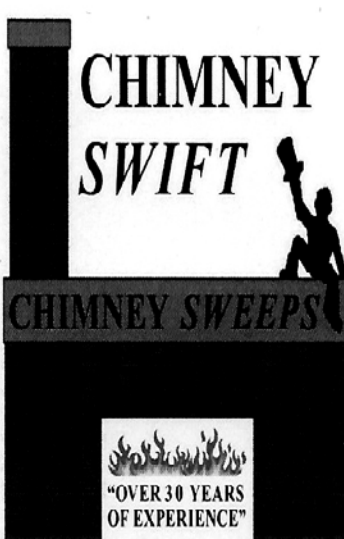
Week" campers here, so it was a fairly small group of campers over the weekend. Saturday afternoon was hot and sunny, so we played Sprinkler Soccer on the sports field, Water Polo down at the lake, and our nature class took a water hike. Everyone stayed nice and cool! The lake sure has warmed up since we were doing lifeguard training the last week of May!

I have had a handful of people tell me that they'd be interested in hosting a small group of staff members for a cookout or boat ride on their night off. Many of our staff don't have transportation, or live far away, so don't have much opportunity to get out of camp on a night off. If you are willing to host a small group on a Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Saturday night, please let me know a possible date, and how many you could handle!

Hope everyone enjoys the fireworks Saturday night, and has a fun weekend on the lake. See you at the breakfast at 8:30 Sunday morning!

~Miss Amber

amber@tannadoonah.org



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# CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

## FOR SALE

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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.



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.

For sale: **Full size bed frame with Maple headboard and footboard.** Make offer. Bob Groszek. 219-384-9291.

For sale: **2010 Bennington pontoon with 50 hp Yamaha & 2013 lake-shore lift** with canopy and motorized wheel assist. \$15,000. Call PJ or Sue Vandewalle at 476-7086

For sale: **Nordic Track**, \$300, Hardly used. Call Chubbie

For sale: **Georgia Peaches**, California Grown - \$.89/lb

For Sale: **Slightly used headstone.** Perfect gift for someone named William Peterson.

For sale: **Cows, calves** never bred. Also one gay bull for sale.

## FOUND

Found: **small red and black Attwood buoy** found in the Cove Sunday, June 23, Call 476-2090

## WANTED

**Caring Man Wanted:** SWF looking for man for permanent relationship, marriage, and support. Must be willing to ignore the voices in my head and occasional muttering under my breath.

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## THANKS

Thank you all for your donations of plastic bags and toilet paper / paper towel tubes! We have enough now to last us the entire summer for tie dye and crafts at camp, so we don't need any more at this time. Thank you from Camp Tannadoonah!

## CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified ads in the Birch Barker are free to BLYC members, \$5 for everyone else. Send your ads to me at [sailorphil@philvitale.com](mailto:sailorphil@philvitale.com)

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gbolin31@aol.com  
Ed Chester (E).....476-1010  
ed@chesterlawoffice.com  
Past Comm. Karen Curtis-Miller (E) .574-261-6712  
karen.curtis-miller@bayer.com,

## BLYC WATER QUALITY COMMITTEE AND HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

Paul Fallon (E), Chairman, Water Quality and Homeowners Association .....476-1467  
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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.

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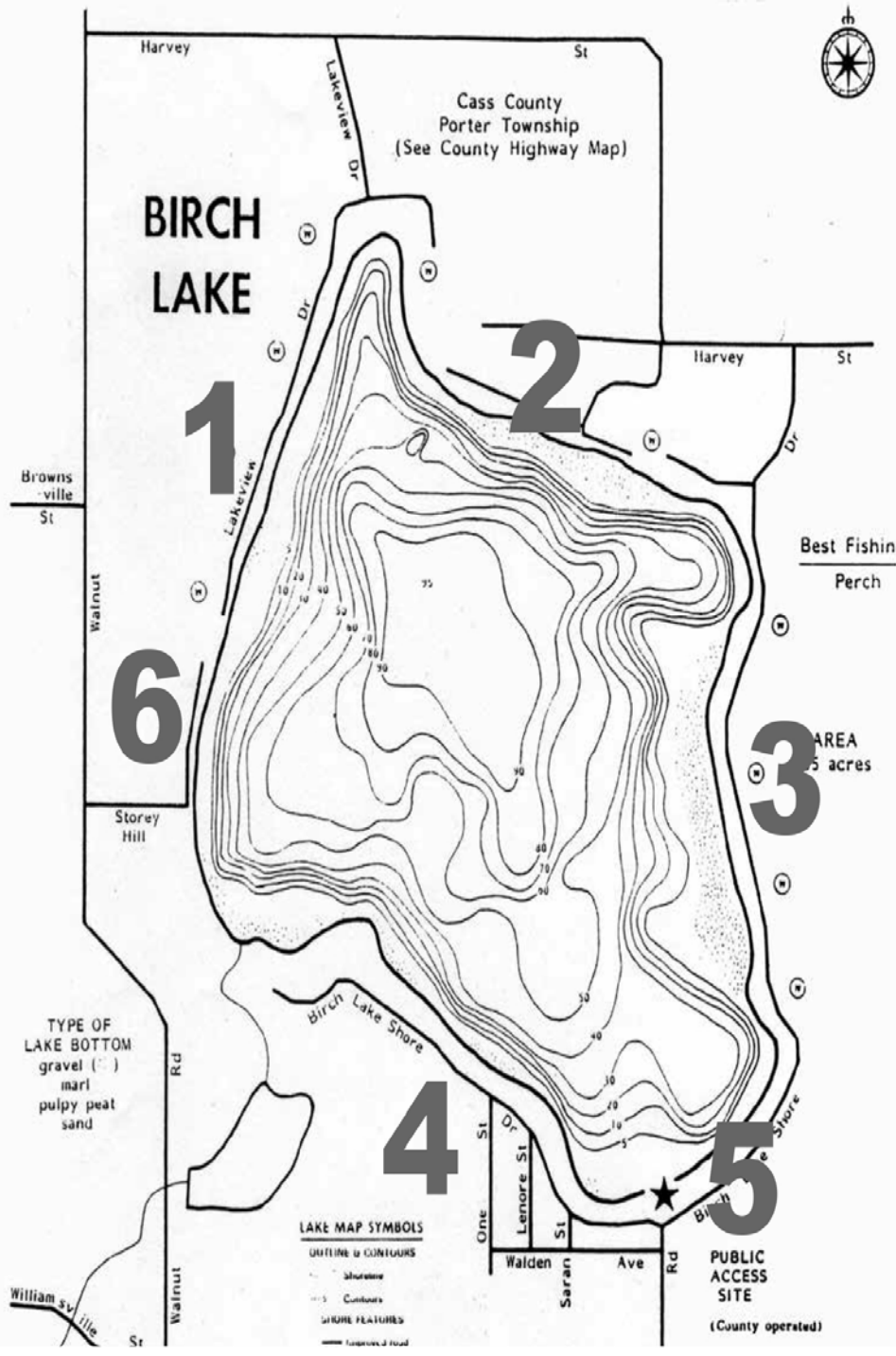
NEW

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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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