

The
Weekend
Of

July 24,
2021

Birch Barker

The official summer publication of the
Birch Lake Yacht Club



Thanks to my mother-in-law Bessie Shafer for making me take a photo of the hummingbird hanging around our house.

COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

Rain Rain go away, Come Again another Day. Well, we have had plenty of rain this summer as every time I try and hook up my sprinklers another deluge begins. I was caught in one recently as I was walking from the East Shore to the West Shore to drop off Birch Lake Directories (yes, I have more if you need one) to Karen Evans and made it as far as the Cove where I took shelter under the little awning of the Rogers Garden house. I was testing the 200 lb weight limit on their antique bench when Vickie saw me and had me come inside their home. This was the first Birch Lake Act of Kindness* that I encountered over this last week.

The rain continued so Tom gave me a ride back home (2*) where I decided to start looking for the largest pontoon boat on the lake in case, we needed to build an ark. Now, Claude Petit has the most petite boat, and my late next door

neighbor Duffy had the oldest one, which his granddaughters confirmed was a 1978 San-Pan with a 25 hp motor that was probably older. For that confirmation I gave them part of my weekly farm share, a wonderful blueberry cake (3*). There is a dry-docked shell of a pontoon in a back lot on the south side that looks more like a planter than a boat, but I cannot confirm its vintage.

But who has the biggest pontoon boat on Birch Lake? I love my pontoon boat, which is just the right size for me, Sharon, Scout and at least a half dozen more, but I would like something bigger than a 25 hp motor. Sharon thinks that is ridiculous, but this is the woman whose shoe collection continues to grow because each pair is a "must have."

The Fallons' and others have the new Tritoon pontoon boats with motors that have 10X or more the horsepower that mine does. The adding of a third pontoon reminded me of the 1970s Saturday Night Live skit making fun of the new double edge razors. I could not find it but an updated version is on line talking about the "Octaginator 8 blades"

which is hilarious. I cannot wait until some boat company comes out with a Quadtoon that requires twin 350hp

2021 Birch Lake Calendar*

July 24 - BLYC family picnic, 5:30-9:30 pm.

July 24 - Diamond Lake Reid Francis Memorial Interlake MC Regatta, page 5

July 30 - BLYC Mens' Golf Outing, Pine View, Three Rivers, 1:30 pm, page 11

August 7 - Corn and Sausage, BLYC, tba

August 21 - NEW DATE BLYC Fall Dinner, details tba

August 27 - Ladies Lunch & Style Show, Woodfire, Dowagiac, 11 am, tba

September 6 - Labor Day flotilla, tba

Oct. 16 - Crocpot Challenge (tentative)

BLYC BOARD MEETINGS

Aug. 7, 9 am @ BLYC

August 7 - Homeowners Association annual meeting, BLYC, following board meeting.

For info, and open dates to rent the Birch Lake Yacht Club building, contact Sandy Vitale at 269-476-1680 or 269-858-8184.

The Birch Barker will entertain ads and editorial items for potential publication. E-mail to sailorphil@philvitale.com, mail them to me (or put them in the stone mailbox) at 63174 Birch Rd. (East Shore). **DEADLINE** for any issue is Noon on the Tuesday of the week before the publication. Contact Editor Phil at onlinebarker@gmail.com, or at 476-1680 (no text). Contact Commodore Dan Waxman, call 317-506-1680 or email DWaxman@versiti.org.

— Birch Lake Notes —

engines to power it.

Please send in your recommendations of the current largest pontoon on the lake and I will add this to our tanning competition this summer.

Vice Commodore Barb will talk about the Vice Commodore/Commodore Party that was held last weekend. Barb and her husband Tom hosted this event (4*) as I was only able to come and go at the beginning, while Tessa McGann sat with Sharon at our cottage (5*). Sandy and Phil Vitale were our steadfast bartenders and helped with the setup and put-away (6*).

For my short time the party was a big success. A day later Tom brought over home-made chicken noodle soup (7*) that he cooked up for Sharon who is recovering from a recent hospitalization. It was tasty, much appreciated, as it is our faith's belief that chicken broth-based soups are the equivalent to most antibiotic therapies. The Fallon's sent a beautiful bouquet of flowers (8*) while Sharon was in the hospital, and I can't say enough good things about our local hospital in TR. The clinical care was excellent, and the staff were kind and supportive (9*).

Many more events await us this summer so look to the Barker for the when and where.

Until that time,
~Commodore Dan, an on-the-mend
First Mate Sharon
and Scout the Wonder Dog

We Got Our Groove On!

Saturday, July 17, just shy of 60 people stepped out in 60s attire to eat, drink, dance and socialize. Great costumes, delicious treats and being with our neighbors made for a fun night. Thanks to Ed and Carla Chester and Angela Bergan who came early to help set up and to numerous people who stayed and pitched in to clean up. The team of Sandy and Phil Vitale once again kept the bar running smoothly and kept everyone refreshed.

There was dancing and fun (**pics on page 10**), and at the end of the night the following prizes were awarded:

- Best costume: Julie and Kelton Dickey (their son John looked fantastic too!)
- Worst costume: Alex Ball
- Best 60s dancing: Bob Waddle

Thanks to all who attended and to

our many volunteers who made the party a success.

~Commodore Dan and
Vice Commodore Barb

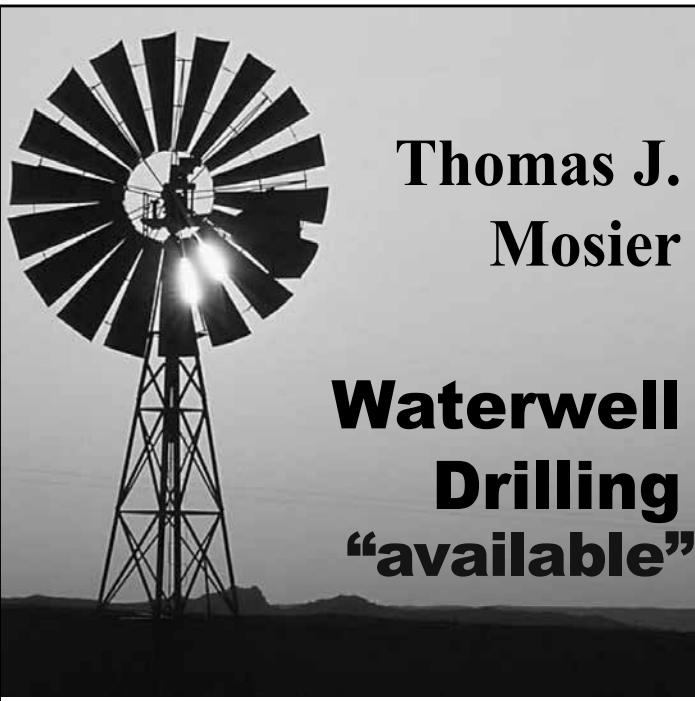
Ladies Luncheon and Style Show

Our Luncheon and Style show is "just around the corner" on Friday, August 27. Six of our Birch Lake ladies will be modeling the latest in fall fashions from the Marshall Shoppe in Dowagiac. Join our models Jan Temple, Tracey Limes, Claudia Phipps, Blair Garceau, Michelle Seyfarth, and Jeannie Welch, for a fun afternoon ... includes 10 percent discount on anything you may buy at the shop after the style show!

Tickets will go on sale this week. The price is \$30 and will include, a salad, entree, drink, tax and gratuity. Just call Denny Weesner, 476 2569 or 650 862 4711, or Ronda Eshleman at 317 418 9557,

Birch Lake Thief alert

Well, it happened again ... a locked and bolted construction trailer was stolen Monday night from Mosiers' (east side). Thieves cut the bolt securing the trailer and made off with it in the night.



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— Birch Lake Notes —

Birch Lake Yacht Club FIREWORKS FUND

2022 Goal



or contribute online at
<http://BirchLakeYachtClub.com/>

If you have any information on the theft or if you see any suspicious activity, contact the Cass County Sheriff's Department by calling 911 for an emergency or 269-445-8644. Do not confront people, let the authorities handle it.

Be sure to lock your house, garage, sheds and cars, and stow lake toys, fishing gear, motors, kayaks and other personal items in a secure location.

Corn & Sausage Roast – Saturday, August 7 – Mark Your Calendars!

After a two-year hiatus the Corn & Sausage Roast is returning on Saturday, August 7. Set aside your dinner plans for a delicious feast at the Yacht Club. No reservations required. More details to follow.

BLYC Family Picnic THIS WEEKEND!

Join us for a FREE Birch Lake Yacht Club Family Picnic! Rock out to the band and enjoy hamburgers, hot dogs, ice cream, and games! Want to pitch in? Bring a side or dessert to share. The summer is hot, the bar is open, and the BLYC is ready for fun!

This is an outdoor and indoor event, so there will be no parking at the BLYC. Fortunately, several generous neighbors on the south side have offered areas for parking nearby. Bicycles and carpooling are encouraged. Please plan your approach accordingly.

WHERE: Birch Lake Yacht Club (south side of the lake)

WHEN: Saturday, July 24, from 5:30 -9 pm

WHO: The entire Birch Lake Community, kids and guests are welcome!

WEATHER: In the event of rain, the event (including band) will be moved inside.

The Printed Birch Barker

The Birch Barker is delivered to homes on Birch Lake every weekend, and is available online at the website

<http://www.philvitale.com/Barker/BirchBarker.htm>.

Deadline for any given week's Barker is noon on Tuesday prior to the weekend. To contact editor Phil, email onlinebarker@gmail.com, sailorphil@philvitale.com, phone 269-476-1680 (no text, I don't have a cell phone), mail items to 63174 Birch Rd., Vandalia, MI 49095 or put them in my mailbox at that address on the east side of the lake.

To submit items to the Birch Barker or to buy a display or classified ad, email your items to sailorphil@philvitale.com or onlinebarker@gmail.com, or mail (or deposit items) Phil Vitale, 63174 Birch Rd. (east side), Vandalia, MI 49095.

Display ad sizes and prices can be seen at <http://www.philvitale.com/Barker/BirchBarker.htm>. Classified ads are free for BLYC paid members, and \$5/week for non-members.

BLYC FAMILY PICNIC

WHEN: Saturday July 24
5:30pm-9pm

WHERE: Birch Lake Yacht Club

WHO: Birch Lake community and guests

WHAT: A free party!

- Bring a side or dessert to share
- Donations welcome
- Nearby parking is available - look for the signs! Bicycles and carpooling encouraged.



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~BLYC Sailing Results~


BLYC Season Standings to date

Date	11-Jul	11-Jul	Total	Point	Races	%	
Race	12	13	Points	Average	Finished	Finished	
MC Scow/Sailor	Total MC Races=>						13
Scott Troeger #1489	1	DNS	17146	1559	10	77%	
Barb Cassady #2506	3	1	15449	1545	10	77%	
Bill Luecht #1579	2	3	18932	1456	13	100%	
Pat Welch #1979	DNS	2	14010	1401	9	69%	
Bob King #1199	DNS	4	1369	1369	1	8%	
Pat McGann #1735	4	5	14846	1350	10	77%	
Amber Grundy	5	6	10372	1297	8	62%	
Sandy Vitale	6	7	16217	1247	13	100%	
Sunfish/Sailor	Total Sunfish Races=>						13
Rick Russwurm	1	1	20174	1552	13	100%	
Peter Soldato	DNS	DNS	4644	1548	3	23%	
Scott Temple	DNS	DNS	14322	1432	10	77%	
Stewart Spratt	3	4	18182	1399	13	100%	
Steve Frew	2	2	13825	1383	9	69%	
Bob Niezgodski	DNS	DNS	14493	1318	11	85%	
Herb Cleveland	DNS	3	15746	1312	11	85%	
Amy Troeger	DNS	DNS	3681	1227	3	23%	
Camille Butler	DNS	5	10558	1173	9	69%	
Jeff Walls	DNS	DNS	9120	1140	8	62%	
Pat McGann	DNS	DNS	1024	1024	1	8%	

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 last place (if 5 boats started the race, will be scored as 5th 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.

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**BLYC Family Picnic
BIRCH LAKE
YACHT CLUB**

Free event, donations welcome

*Note: This event is outside and there will be no parking at the BLYC.
In the event of rain, we will hold the event indoors.*

Like Tony Fields Music on Facebook!

— Barker Kids of the Week —



Happy sweet 16 to the oldest Russwurm (north shore) granddaughter. For Greta's birthday she and her sisters were surprised by their dear friends the Mortillaro's sisters who flew in all the way from California. A good time was had by all.



Cameron's Angels! Cam Petty (north shore) is being protected by sister Leila and cousins Kelsey Roussel and Abby Caplis (north shore).

BARKER KIDS OF THE WEEK

Want your kid to be a Kid 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 mailbox at my home (on the east side), or email me at SAILORPHIL@PHILVITALE.COM

THE "SIX COMMANDMENTS OF BIRCH LAKE WATER QUALITY

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>I. Thou shalt prevent the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)</p> <p>II. Thou shalt minimize surface runoff</p> <p>III. Thou shalt minimize the effects of waves</p> <p>IV. Thou shalt protect and expand Natural Shorelines</p> | <p>V. Thou shalt not allow phosphorus, nutrients, and other undesirable chemical elements to enter our lake</p> <p>VI. Thou shalt remain informed and active about other Water Quality issues</p> |
|--|---|

BIRCH LAKE GOODIES!

Custom made koosies, kitchen towels, hot pads, wine bags, flags, coasters, t-shirts, coffee cups and all-occasion greeting cards. Prices vary depending on time and material costs. Great gifts, home/cottage decor. 10% of all sales go to the Birch Lake Yacht Club!



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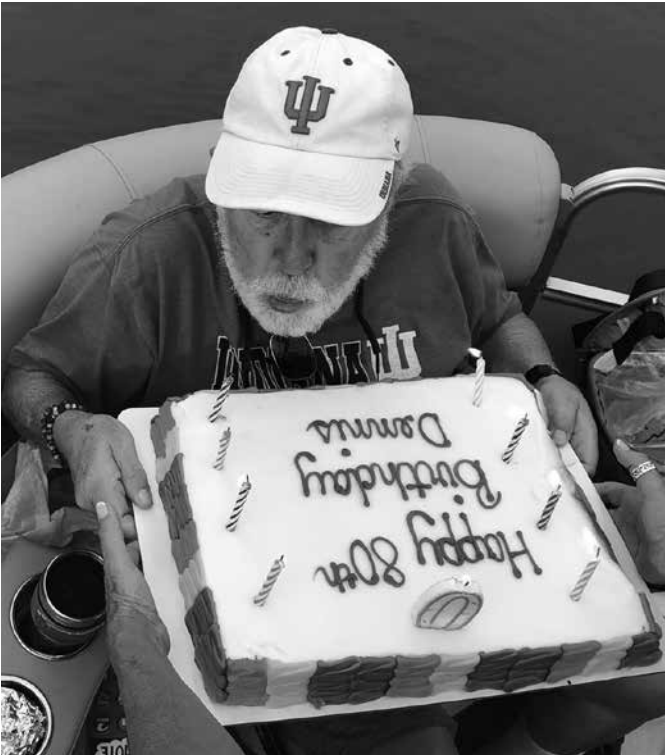
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— Barker Kids of the Week —



Dennis Phipps (north shore) celebrated his 80th birthday in style with his sons and daughter in law from Richmond, Virginia as well with family and friends at the Birch Lake nine boat Flotilla!

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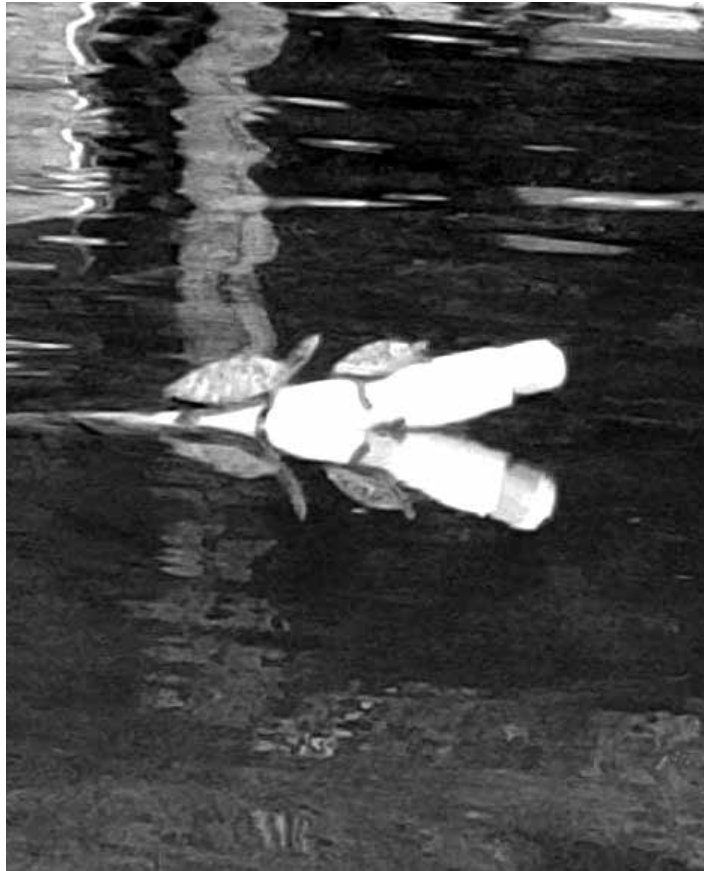
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— Barker Kids of the Week —



Ed Levy (south side) big bass of the year. Caught on a Wig-gler. Measured 19 inches. Yes, he put it back in the lake.

We love when turtles ride this west shore buoy like a rocket!
(Photo by Tory Troeger)



A group from the 4th of July pancake breakfast. The Rous-sell cousins (Richmond, Virginia) made their annual summer trip to Birch Lake to visit the Petty and Caplis cousins (both North Shore).

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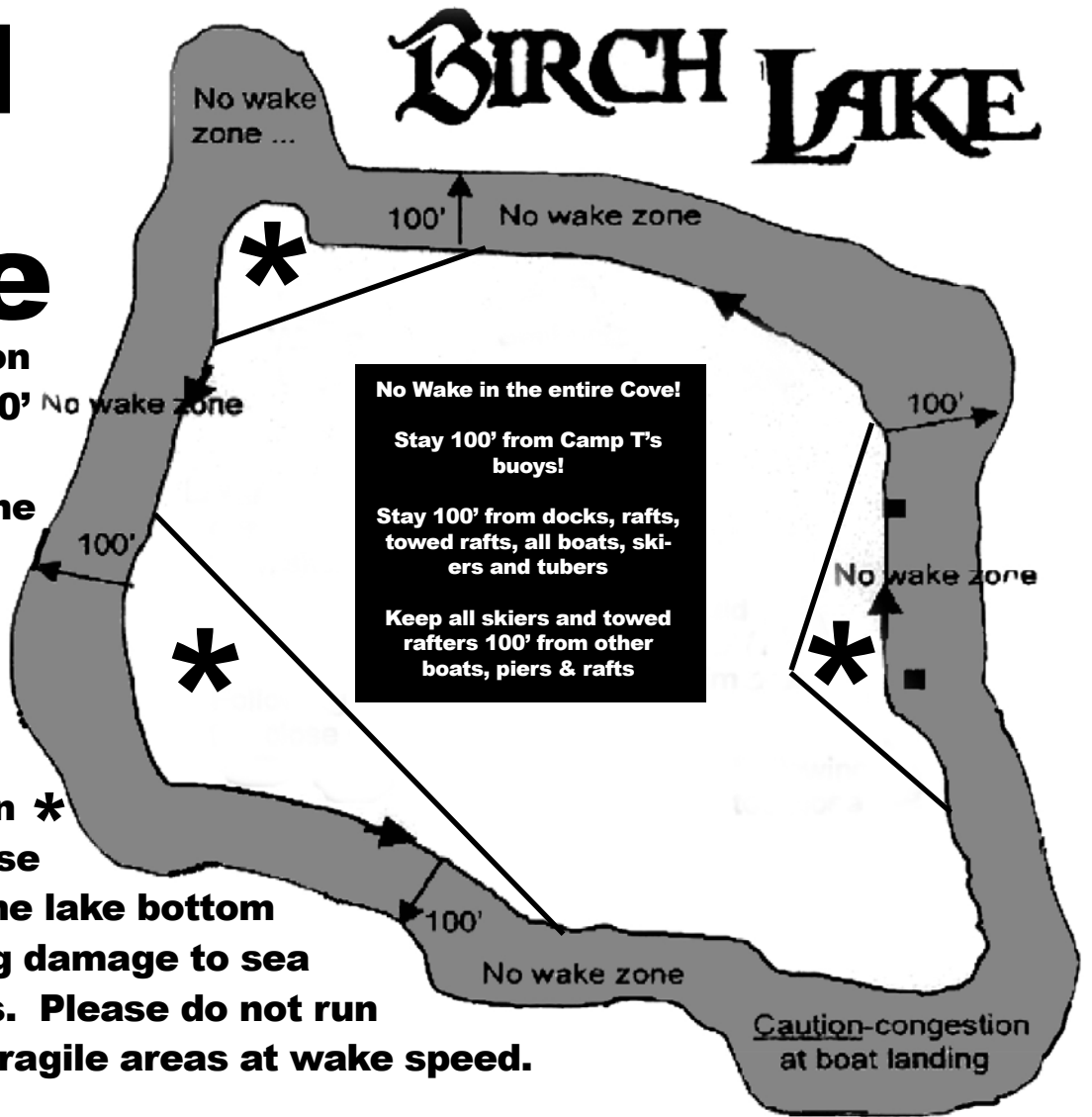
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Mind your wake

***** In addition to the 100' no wake zones around the lakeshores, all boats should produce no wakes in the shallow areas marked with an *

... wakes in these areas disturb the lake bottom and are causing damage to sea walls and yards. Please do not run through these fragile areas at wake speed. Thank you!



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— Comm/Vice Comm Party —



YOUR HOROSCOPE

Aries (March 21-April 19)

Twice a year you get this lovely boost of energy! You will find your choices are attractive and you're more likely able to do whatever you want, both at work or socializing. Your life will hum along more smoothly! Romance will shine! Vacations will appeal! Interactions with children will delight! Without question, you are entering a window of enjoyment and fun stimulation. Many options will appear that give you chances to party and socialize and express your creative talents.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

For the next four weeks, you might face a crisis of sorts. You might find yourself at cross purposes with others, perhaps not intentionally. Expect to be more involved with a parent and have a stronger focus on home and family. You might be annoyed with anyone who gets in the way of your ability to do this. You will also welcome a chance to cocoon or go off by yourself to enjoy some solitude. Quite likely, something will trigger childhood memories for you.

Gemini (May 21-June 20)

The next four weeks are a favorable time for. When it happens, it sparks your interest in daily contacts, friends, neighbors and siblings as well as groups to which you belong. This new energy will also accelerate your daily tempo because you will be more active and involved with doing things that are new and different. It's a great time for a vacation. It's also great time for heart-to-heart discussions.

Cancer (June 21-July 22)

By nature, you are frugal. You like a bargain and get good value you're never casual about money. In the next four weeks, your focus on money will be much stronger. You will give more thought to cash flow, earnings and budgeting for the future. While doing so, you will also take a more serious look at your possessions and examine whether or not they serve your needs! The bottom line is this: You want to feel that you are exerting more control over your life.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)

For the next four weeks, you will have a marvelous boost of energy! Therefore, it's the perfect time to think about what you want to accomplish this year. Ideally, last month you might have defined some goals. If not - do this right now because goals help you achieve things. They give you a sense of purpose. They keep you on track. And they make future decision-making easier.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

For the next four weeks, you're in limbo. The best way to use this time is to cast a glance back over your shoulder. How well are you doing at the art of living? After you make some important observations (and you are a keen observer), ask yourself how you want your year ahead to be different from last year? Where do you want to make improvements? What do you want to avoid? If you want to evaluate yourself, you have to do so with complete honesty.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Not only do you enjoy the company of others, you need someone on the other end of your teeter-totter. You will love the four weeks ahead because you can expect to be more involved with friends as well as groups and organizations to which you belong. You might be elected to office or thrust in a leadership position. This is also a good time to see how well you have succeeded in doing what you are doing and also where you have not succeeded.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

For the next four weeks it you are cast in a flattering spotlight that makes you look good to others, especially bosses, parents, VIPs and the police. Even if you don't do anything special. Admittedly, you will encounter challenges and find yourself at cross purposes with some people, especially bosses and parents. Work with this as skilfully as you can. Think about your career and your standing in the community. Are you going in the direction you want to go? Enjoy the support of a good friend.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

You're entering a delightful four-week window ahead! It means that life will hum along more easily. Nevertheless, now is the time to firm up affairs and get your ducks in a row. Travel plans will be important. You might be more involved with a foreign country or other cultures. Some of you will also be more involved with higher education, the law and medicine. Meanwhile, some will have a romance with a boss.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Two influences are at play in the next month. Travel and a chance to expand your horizons will please you. You will enjoy art exhibits, long pleasurable trips, concerts and anything that is culturally enriching. However, something else will make you more in touch with your personal self. You might notice strong compulsions arising within you. Continue to enjoy opportunities to enrich your coffers.

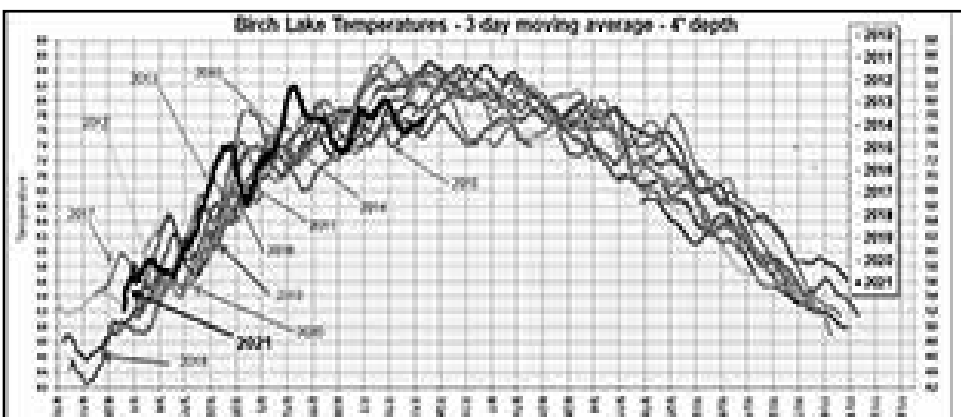
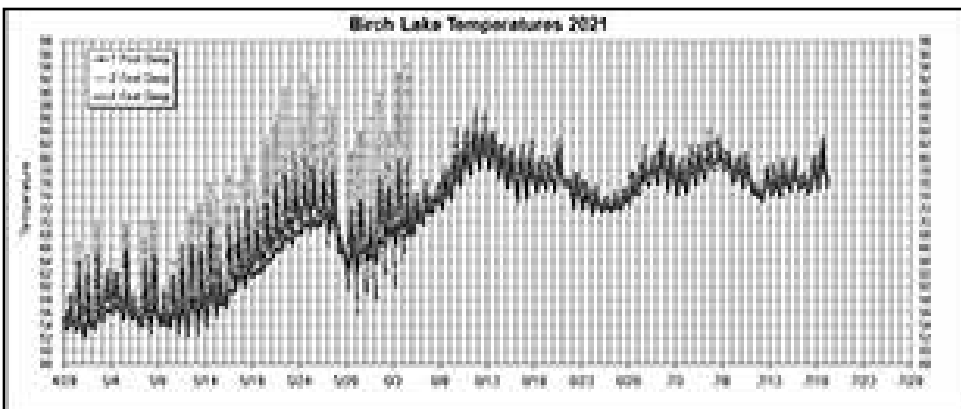
Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

For the next four weeks, you will need more sleep. However, this also means that it's time to bring your affairs to a climax. Admittedly, you might encounter opposition from others, especially superiors or people in authority. It might be tough to fit all the pieces in place. This is the best time all year to examine your closest relationships and more accurately see your role in them.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

Ironically, while many signs are gearing up to play and explore vacations and creative outlets, you are getting ready to work hard and get better organized in the next four weeks. Oh yes! You want to feel that you're working smart - that you're getting the results for your efforts. This desire to be on top of things will include not only your work, but also embrace your respect for your own health. Basically, you want to strive to make every action count in your personal and your professional life. This is why you might stop some bad habits and encourage healthier ones.

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: 0.979
1.2 days after full moon



Sunrise: 06:26:53 AM
Sunset: 21:10:13 PM
Moonrise: 22:09:22 PM
Moonset: 06:41:25 AM
Daylight: 14 Hr 43 Min 20 Sec

Birch Barker Funnies



"Oh, yeah? Well, how 'bout I come over there and rearrange your face?"





~Birch Lake Recipes~



Provided Exclusively to the Birch Barker from Mrs. Ima Foodnudge

Healthy Chicken Salad

A protein-packed alternative to the normal chicken salad. This one is healthier, quick, and easy to make. I peeled my apple, personal preference, but feel free to add it unpeeled.

Original recipe yields 4 servings

Ingredients

- 1 (6 ounce) container fat-free Greek yogurt
- ½ cup low-fat cottage cheese
- ½ cup chopped celery
- ½ cup diced apple
- ¼ cup sweetened dried cranberries
- 2 tablespoons chopped onion
- 2 tablespoons chopped pecans
- ½ tablespoon Dijon mustard
- 1 ¼ cups cubed, cooked chicken
- salt and ground black pepper to taste

Directions

Combine Greek yogurt, cottage cheese, celery, apple, cranberries, onion, pecans, and Dijon mustard in a bowl; stir until well combined. Mix in chicken and season with salt and pepper.



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— Camp Tannadoonah —

100th anniversary celebration coming

As we get closer to the end of the summer at camp, we're starting to look ahead to the fall, and planning for a big event up here at camp. This summer – 2021 – is the 100th Anniversary of the Camp Tannadoonah! In July 1921 the Camp Fire girls of South Bend held their first summer camp program on the shores of Pleasant Lake in Edwardsburg. That first summer, they called it Wohelo Camp. Wohelo is considered the watchword of Camp Fire, and stands for WOrk, HEalth, and LOve.

In 1923, they adopted the name Camp Tannadoonah. In 1930, Camp Fire purchased the current property on Birch Lake, and relocated the camp. We still use two of the buildings that have been here since before camp owned the property! Main Lodge is our staff building, where Mr. Adam stays, as well as several other members of the staff. Main also serves as the staff lounge where staff can go hang out during time off. The Handcraft Building and Phair Trading Post are the other original building. In the 1920s, that building served as the guest cottage for the Cunningham family who owned the property.

When Camp Fire purchased the current property, they brought an old school house building from Edwardsburg, and attached it to the back of the existing

farmhouse (now called Main Lodge). That space was used as the Dining Hall for the campers in those early years. Within the first few years, they built 6 new cabins, 4 of which are still in use – Rotary, Exchange, Exchangementtes, and Luta Koda.

In 1938, the Morris Family donated the funds for Morris Lodge, which serves as our senior girls' cabin, and has been the focus of our fundraising efforts for the past few years. In 1954, the current dining hall was built through a bequest from Laura B. DeRhodes. Funds from the DeRhodes bequest were also used to construct the "Birds" cabins (Robins & Woodpeckers and Cardinals & Wrens), and the Nurse's Cabin.

From the early 60s to the late 80s, very little changed at camp – at least physically. In 1976, Camp Fire Girls became Camp Fire, and the organization became co-ed for the first time. The next new building to be constructed at camp was the Shower House in 1989. Before that, campers had no hot water or showers at camp. As a camper, I recall Mrs. Murphy turning on the sprinklers every Wednesday so we could all wash our hair!

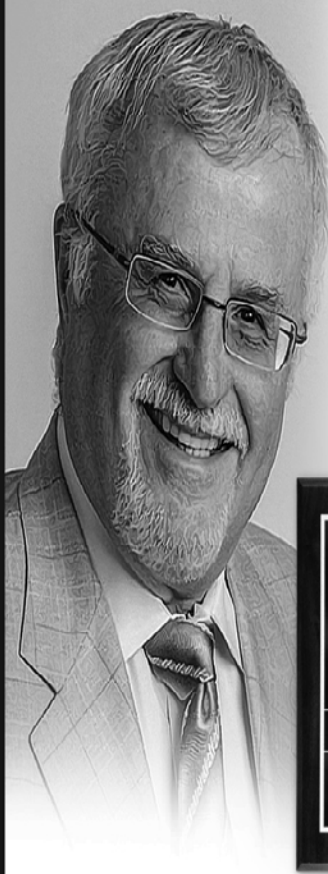
In the early 2000s, the new tennis and basketball courts were built, and dedicated in memory of Mrs. Jo Murphy,




the Camp Director from 1970 to 1997. In 2017 we built the first new camper cabin in over 50 years! In 2018 we built the Welcome Center to provide year round office space at Camp for the first time ever.

We will be hosting a weekend celebration of the 100th Anniversary from September 24-26. It's an Adult Camp Weekend, open to everyone who loves Camp T. Friends of Camp, lake residents, camper parents, former Camp Fire members, Camp Tannadoonah and Camp Kiloqua alumni, and people who just love camp are all invited to join us to celebrate 100 years. Our planning committee has many fun and exciting plans for this weekend! You can register for the event at givegrove.com/100years. We hope to see you all there!

~Mrs. Amber



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SLOW DOWN ON THE BIRCH LAKE ROADS

The roads around Birch Lake are narrow and fraught with blind spots. There are a lot of folks walking, biking, jogging, and a lot of kids and pets. Please slow down and be careful!

This message is brought to you by the Homeowners Association of Birch Lake



2021 BLYC OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

2018/19 BLYC Officers

Dan Waxman (E), Commodore
317-506-1680 DWaxman@versiti.org

Barb Cassady (E), Vice Commodore
574-303-2831-bcassady@holycrossvillage.com

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

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

Bill Luecht (E), Fleet Captain..... 476-2843
wal303@sbcglobal.net

Karen Curtis-Miller (E)574-261-6712
krcurtismiller@gmail.com

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

Bernie Garceau 476-9862
bgarceau@norcoind.com

Chas Grundy (E)574-315-0217
chas.grundy@gmail.com

Deb Hall (Cove)..... 476-7226
bdeh@sbcglobal.net

Patty Luecht (E)476-2615
pgalloway4@yahoo.com

P. Com. Pat McGann (E).....574-532-5377
pat@mcgannhay.com

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

Claudia Phipps (N).....i476-7073
claudia2154@gmail.com

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

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

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

Phil Vitale (E).....476-1680
sailorphil@philvitale.com,
or onlinebarker@gmail.com

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

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

2018 BLYC Directors

Angela Bergan (E)561-603-5522
berganfsu@aol.com

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

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

WATER QUALITY AND HOMEOWNERS
Paul Fallon (E), Chairman, Water Quality and Homeowners Association 476-1467
pauljfallon@gmail.com



BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB IF YOU HAVEN'T PAID YET, It's time to pay your 2021 dues!



Support the BLYC, support the Lake, support the Community!

\$___ - BLYC Member Dues (\$30 / year)

Total contribution:

\$___ - BLYC Associate Member* Dues (\$10 / year)

\$_____

*Associate membership is available to current associate members and for non-lake residents who wish to support the BLYC

\$___ - Homeowners' Assoc. (\$10 / year)

Name _____

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Address _____

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\$___ - Water Quality Program

\$___ - Milfoil/Loosestrife Eradication

\$___ - Safety Committee

\$___ - Other non-party related expenses

\$___ - BLYC Roof Fund

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\$___ - Misc.

Make checks payable to

BLYC

and mail to Deb Spratt, Treasurer
18100 Farmington Hills Dr.
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Now you can go online at [HTTP://BIRCHLAKEYACHTCLUB.COM](http://BIRCHLAKEYACHTCLUB.COM) to pay your dues

PERFORMING A RESCUE

1



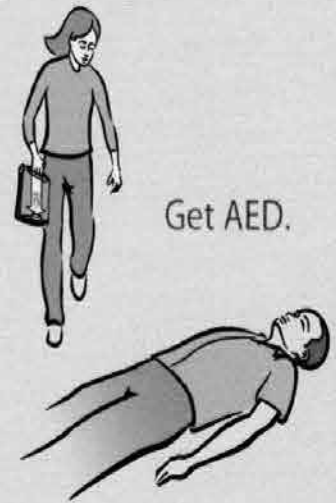
Is patient responsive?

2



Call emergency services!

3



Get AED.

4



Place AED on ground.
Open lid.

5



Remove clothing.
Expose chest.

6



Attach pads.

7



Do not touch the patient.

8



If required, AED will deliver
shock automatically.

9



If present, place CPR device.

10



Follow AED prompts.
Give compressions.

11



If instructed, give breaths.

Automatic AED



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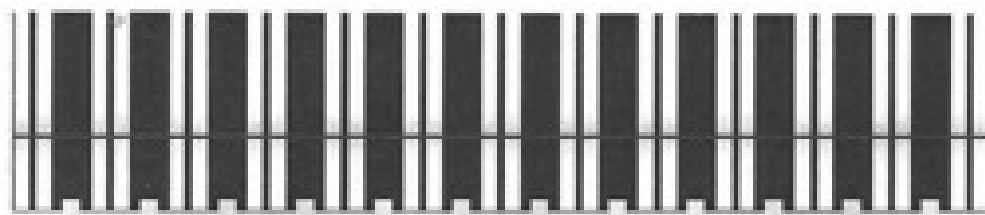


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