

The  
Weekend  
Of

July 17,  
2021

# Birch Barker

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



*Vice Commodore Barb Cassady (east side) had fun last Sunday despite a dunking on a cold Sunday afternoon.*

## COMMODORE'S COMMENTS

**F**riends, Friends, Friends, we will always be! Remember singing that at camp? After a very quiet post July 4th weekend and last week on Birch (thankfully), I started to reflect on the friends I have made through time and my family. In the 1930s, my mother Jane Zabel Waxman went to Camp Eberhart and became fast friends with Fran (Frannie) Green. Frannie was the older sister of Dick (south side) and twin sisters Jo and Sue. When Frannie's daughter Pam went to Camp Eberhart in the 1960s, she was friends with my older sister Gail, and I was friends in the 1970s with 2 of Dick's daughters, Sandy, and Kathy. Now here is where it gets interesting. Dick Green went to medical school and became a surgeon, and my mother went to medical school and became a pediatrician. Sandy and Kathy both became physicians and married physicians. My mother married a physician, and my brothers Michael and

Stevie are physicians, with Michael marrying a physician. I too am a physician and happily married Sharon who has a master's degree in Special Education, a valuable training and degree to be married into my family. Kathy has 2 daughters, both physicians and both married to physicians. My youngest sister Abby has 2 girls, the oldest Chelsea is now in her last year of medical school at my alma mater, Kansas.

Chelsea met her husband David as counselors at Camp Tannadoonah eight years ago. They dated through college, her at Kansas State as a pre-med, David at Purdue as an engineer, and last August I officiated their wedding in Kansas City. Yes, by the powers invested in me from the Universal Life Church I can preside over weddings in most states and other events that needs a member of the clergy.

So, here is where everything comes

## 2021 Birch Lake Calendar\*

**July 17** - Commodore/Vice Commodore Party, BLYC 7 pm, see page 3  
**July 23** - Ladies Golf Outing, 9 am, Diamond Lake Golf Course, page 10  
**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** - Crockpot Challenge (tentative)

### **BLYC BOARD MEETINGS**

July 10, Aug. 7, all 9 am @ BLYC

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

*For information 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 —

full circle. Chelsea wants to be a pediatrician like my mother. Kathy's daughter Kristen is in her pediatric residency in Kansas City. They met virtually a few months ago, then in person on Birch Lake on July 3rd at a Green Family gathering and baby shower for Kristen. Chelsea will be doing a rotation at Kristen's hospital in a few months, and her hope is to do her residency there. Ninety years ago, Chelsea's grandmother and Kristen's great aunt became friends at Camp Eberhart, and now they have become friends and are pursuing the same field of medicine. Friends and family via the Green's and Waxman's.

This Saturday is the Commodore/Vice Commodore Party at the Yacht Club (see notice in the Barker), and I hope to see many of you there. We are only mid-summer so let's make the best of our time on Birch Lake.

Until that Time,

~Commodore Dan, First Mate Sharon and Scout the Wonder Dog

## 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

## 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.

## Ladies Golf Outing

Ladies! Our annual fun golf outing is Friday, July 23. Grab three of your besties and join us at Diamond Lake Golf Course. Tee off is at 9 am, with an enjoyable luncheon afterwards. You say

you're not a good golfer? We don't care. It's a "best ball" scramble so everyone can come and play without any worries. If you are unable to get a foursome together let us know and we'll help find you a great group of ladies who'll make it a fun day.

Just want to enjoy the lunch? There's space for that too. Check out the Ladies Golf Outing form in this Barker for more info or call one of us. Lunch should start around 11:30 or so. Come join us.

~Carol McCoy & Blair Garceau

## MC events planned

The Diamond Lake Reid Francis Memorial Interlake MC Regatta is planned for July 24 (see page 5 for details).

## 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



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# — Birch Lake Notes —

## Birch Lake Yacht Club FIREWORKS FUND 2022 Goal



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

## Get your Groove on!!

Join Commodore Dan and Vice Commodore Barb  
For the Annual Commodore/Vice Commodore Party



Saturday, July 17th  
7:00 PM at the BLYC  
60's themed

This casual party will be fun, fun, fun!  
If you're feelin' it wear Hippie attire  
(jeans and your fav t-shirt are fine).

Last name starting with an A - M  
bring an appetizer; Last names of  
N - Z bring a dessert.

We'll have the bar open for beer, wine  
and whatever else is in stock.

Prizes will be awarded for best cos-  
tume, worst costume, and best 60's  
dancin'.

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 mail-box 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

Join us for a FREE Birch Lake Yacht Club Family Picnic! Rock out to Tony Fields and Doug Decker performing live, 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. Unfortunately, we cannot offer shuttles but limited parking on the south side may be available. Just ask Sailor Phil and Sandy - walking is great! Please plan your approach accordingly.

Volunteers wanted! Contact Claudia Phipps at (269) 476-7073 or claudia2154@gmail.com to sign up.

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

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

WHO: The entire Birch Lake Community, kids welcome!

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



**FUNK - SOUL - HIP HOP  
RHYTHM & BLUES  
LOVE SONGS - MOTOWN**

**TONY FIELDS &  
DOUG DECKER**

**PERFORMING LIVE!**

**SAT JULY 24<sup>TH</sup>  
5:30<sup>PM</sup> - 9:30<sup>PM</sup>**

**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!



# FLEET CAPTAIN'S CORNER



**W**ell it wasn't the prettiest day to sail, but we still managed to get two races in. It was rough and blustery and that made it quite an accomplishment for the committee boat to stay anchored and in place! We had 7 MCs and 5 sunfish out sailing on Sunday. We did only two races because of the strong wind, that was coming from all directions. We did have a couple experienced sailors go over so that proved to us that only two races should be enough for the day. Most sailors agreed with the decision. Especially, the committee boat crew!

On the committee boat were Phil

Vitale good Patty Russwurm, and Bad Patty. Once again Tom Cassidy put out the marks and we were ready to roll or I should say sail!

Looking ahead to the weather maybe next Sunday will be better and we'll get three races in!!! Crossing fingers! You never know about Birch Lake and the wind and the direction it will take.

Hope to see you out there! Your family and friends should join you to experience the time of their lives!

Thank you Good Patti!!!

Sail on, Sail on!

~Fleet Captain, Bill

(and ghostwriter, BP)



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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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### SAVE THE DATE

Reid Francis MC Invitational Regatta

Saturday July 24

Diamond Lake Yacht Club

Sailors invited from:

Birch Lake-Corey Lake-Eagle Lake  
Indian Lake—Diamond Lake



#### ATTENTION RACERS

REGISTER on-line at [dlvcmi.org](http://dlvcmi.org)

#### Race Day

8:00AM Breakfast

9:00AM Skippers Meeting

10:00 First of 3 races

Lunch Included

3:30PM Awards

Spectators Welcome

Watch by boat or shore at DLYC, 21268 Shore Acres Drive, Cassopolis, MI



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## SUNDAY IS SAILING DAY

AT BIRCH LAKE,

and

ON SAILING DAYS

races start at 11 am!

PLEASE GIVE 'EM

A BREAK and

# STAY CLEAR OF THE COURSE!

# — Water Quality Report —

## Commandment #4

The 2007 National Lakeshore Assessment indicated that far more Michigan inland lakes are stressed by poor shoreline conditions than by excesses of nutrients or turbidity. Shorelines dictate what gets into the lake, provide key animal habitat and breeding areas serve as important fish nursery areas and prevent (or hasten) soil erosion.

(The) "lawns and seawalls (that most of us have) change the lake ecosystem in ways that are hard to reverse." Hard shorelines have physical, biological and chemical impacts. In terms of our environment and protecting our lake, natural shorelines are best. They are even our best bet at limiting phosphorus. An optimum natural shorelines includes many components:

- Submerged vegetation (in the water)
- Emergent or floating vegetation (in the water)
- Woody debris (beached logs or sticks) (in the water)
- A secured, gradual (climbable by turtles) slope up from the water's edge
- And, at the top of the slope, before the lawn, a barrier strip (the wider the better) of at least 12" - 24" tall native, deep-rooted-plants.

In a perfect world the gradual slope

would be made of and secured by native plants, perhaps initially held in place by natural fabrics or logs. Seyfarths (north-east corner) comes to mind as meeting many of these criteria.

The barrier strip helps to prevent erosion but also captures many chemicals on their way to the lake. It also makes your lawn area less desirable to geese. Please pick up whatever deposits geese (or other living beings) might leave on your property and throw them, not into the lake, but into the trash.

Although not 100 percent natural, a gradual slope of riprap (cobble and boulders) is more desirable than a solid concrete wall. A gradual slope of riprap could be installed in place or in front (on the lake side) of a poured concrete seawall, thus mitigating some of its negative effects. Kudos to the Woznys (south) and Troegers (east side).

Even those with riprap and/or a poured concrete wall could install and maintain any of the other features of a natural shoreline described above.

A hardened shoreline, absent any of these natural characteristics, used to be considered by many of us lake folks to be highly desirable. Instead, water quality experts have referred them to as "aquatic



deserts".

In 2017, using methods and standards provided as part of the Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program, we subjected our lake to a "Score the Shore" evaluation. Due to our performance (or lack of) on the factors listed above, and the amount of development around the lake, we received a Below-Average score. Our score today might be a little higher, but not too much different, still likely below average.

A good source for more information on the subject, including approved material and contractor source guides, can be found at [www.mishorelinepartnership.org](http://www.mishorelinepartnership.org). Also helpful is [www.mishorelandstewards.org](http://www.mishorelandstewards.org).

**PLEASE PASS THE WORD.**

### THE "SIX COMMANDMENTS OF BIRCH LAKE WATER QUALITY"

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

### 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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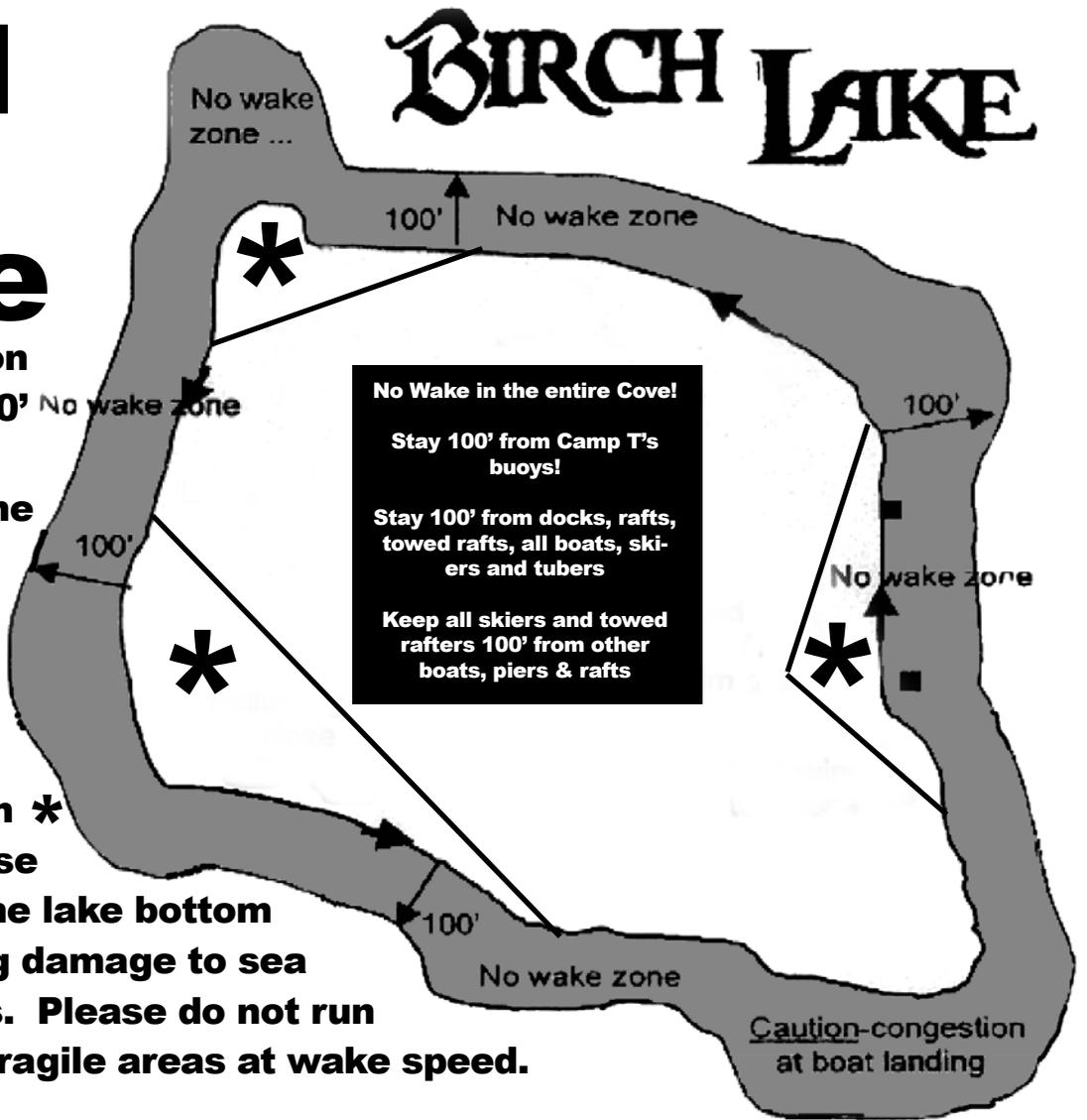
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# Mind your wake

**\*** 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!



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

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# — Barker Kids of the Week —



*Calvin and Elizabeth King (north side) had a few friends up for the Fourth of July celebration ...*

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**[Paul@TheLakeLife.com](mailto:Paul@TheLakeLife.com)**

# — Barker Kids of the Week —



Dennis and Claudia Phipps and family and friends (north side) celebrated the Fourth of July after a breakfast of pancakes at Camp Tannadoonah.

## BARKER KIDS OF THE WEEK

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; or put them in a ziplock and stick them in the stone mailbox at my home (on the east side), or email them to me at [SAILORPHIL@PHILVITALE.COM](mailto:SAILORPHIL@PHILVITALE.COM)

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# — Barker Kids of the Week —



*Hudson Allen, 7 year old grandson of Jeannie and Patrick Welch (south side), sleeping with the trophy he won for 1st Place in the Birch Lake 4th of July Boat Parade. Winning made this little boy so excited and happy ... he kept saying "I won! I never win anything!" Hudson was born with Heterotaxy Syndrome (a rare condition that effects four in 1 million births, and he was not expected to live). But here he is, 7 years old. He has 1/2 a heart (backwards, in the wrong side of his chest), one lung, no spleen, and his kidneys are in the front of his abdomen. He has undergone multiple surgeries and is a brave and determined little guy. Winning and receiving a trophy truly made his day!*

## **Birch Lake Ladies' FUN Golf Outing**

**Friday, July 23, 2021  
Diamond Lake Golf Course, Cassopolis  
9 AM Tee Off - \$35 per golfer  
Please arrive no later than 8:30 AM  
Fee includes cart and box lunch**

**Box Lunch at Diamond Lake Golf Course following the Outing**

**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 sponsor a hole please contact either:  
Blair Garceau 574-261-9817 or Carol McCoy 708-738-3962**

**Don't have a team? Sign up and we'll help find you one.**

-----  
**Registration Form  
Team Members (list captain first with phone number)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make checks payable to BLYC . Bring or mail to: Blair Garceau, 63542 Birch Road, Vandalia, MI 49095 or Carol McCoy, 63021 Birch Road, Vandalia, MI 49095**

**Deadline for registration is July 17th**

# — Barker Kids of the Week —



*A very happy 40th wedding anniversary to Buzz and Linda Rasmussen (west side). From their favorite and only daughter Phyllis Cate.*

*Some of the kids who helped out at the Port-a-Pit chicken sale ... Chris Karceski is top right of picture and Rachel Karceski is in the lower right. Submitted by Mary Karceski (north side).*

## BLYC Men's Golf Outing

**The 2021 Annual BLYC's Men's Golf Outing is on Friday July 30th at Pine View's Hemlock Course in Three Rivers, or "Tripple Ripple" as we use to call it at Camp Eberhart, with a shotgun start at 1:30 pm. A beef tenderloin dinner to follow. Sign up and pay online at: [birchlakeyachtclub.com](http://birchlakeyachtclub.com). Also, email me your team members at [pat@mcgannhay.com](mailto:pat@mcgannhay.com). You may also drop off a check and the entry blank below at my house mailbox, 63156 Birch Rd. The cost per player is a very cheap only \$65 per player, or \$260 per foursome, which seems to be the cost of one 2x4 these days or five gallons of gas in your boat. Questions call/text 574-532-5377.**

Entry Form

1. \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Paid.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check or cash amount enclosed

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Contact's  
Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Entry and payment due by: July 23, 2021**

# ~ Birch Lakers ~

## Birch Lakers to the rescue!

### Lakers to the rescue

During the week surrounding Independence Day, our sister Cynthia came for a visit. In the course of her week-long visit we needed saving several times and Birch Lakers came to the rescue. A big thank you goes out to these families for their aid – to the Baucus family when our golf cart broke, to the Magros and Seyfarths when our bimini broke and we could not dock our boat, to the Dugan family when our wave runner started sinking, and to the Rodriguez family and our son Ross when the wave runner lift broke. A thank you goes out to Midwest Energy restoring power after 24 hours and to the Sisters, Claudia and Cynthia for saving hearing aids after falling out of the kayak. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!

~The Phipps family



# 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>**



# YOUR HOROSCOPE

## Aries (March 21-April 19)

This is a positive week! Your focus on home and family is strong. Expect enthusiastic family discussions about plans for the future or major repairs or changes to your home. These discussions might include social plans for the future - a reunion perhaps. Interaction with a parent is still strong. You might also have a heart-to-heart talk with someone in your family, perhaps a parent or someone older. If so, it will be mutually sympathetic and mutually beneficial. It's all good.

## Taurus (April 20-May 20)

Because you're in a positive frame of mind this week, you will have a positive week. You're making big plans and you're excited about something. Spontaneous short trips are likely. There's also a lot going on at home. Expect to entertain at home and be involved with family occasions. Nevertheless, increased chaos and activity at home will create some pandemonium.

## Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Money, cash flow and earnings continue your priority. You also have big plans connected with cash flow. This could mean a financial outlay in your business or it might mean a major expenditure. You might also talk to a group of important people and in turn, this could affect your earnings. Meanwhile this is a fast-paced, upbeat, optimistic week for you. Your relations with others will be smooth and friendly.

## Cancer (June 21-July 22)

A lively week for you! The Sun is still in your sign boosting your energy and attracting opportunities and people to you. This pumps your enthusiasm and makes you want to endorse big ideas, perhaps related to travel, publishing, the media or something to do with medicine and the law. You've got plans! Meanwhile, fair Venus and Mars are lined up in your Money House. Venus will attract money to you and encourage buying beautiful things; while Mars will make you use something you own to get stuff done.

## Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)

You are still taking a backseat to everything around you. Be happy playing things low-key. You'll be excited about some kind of study or research this week that will yield happy results that please you. This is also a great week to buy wardrobe items for yourself. With Venus in your sign, you will love socializing with others and you'll be oh so charming.

## Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Your popularity continues to soar! Everyone wants to see your face, especially younger people. The beginning of this week is a wonderful time to make plans and set future goals. You like to do this because you are a natural list maker. (Lists are so satisfying because they give you the illusion that you're doing something. I love them.) You might organize a social gathering of people this week.

## Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

This is a powerful week because the Sun is still at the top of your chart casting you in a flattering spotlight, which means others admire you. Go after what you want! A discussion with a boss, parent or teacher will make you happy because it will include exciting, big plans. These could be plans about business or commercial activities or plans for the future.

## Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

You are restless for adventure right now. You need a change of scenery and you're eager to travel. Basically, you want to do something different so that you feel stimulated and turned on! You will particularly enjoy meeting people who are different and unusual - perhaps younger. This week you might make big travel plans or you might make ambitious plans connected with the law, medicine and higher education, or something to do with publishing and the media. You will be further encouraged to explore these ideas because relations with parents and bosses are excellent now due to the fact that Venus will smooth the way for all discussions. Meanwhile, you're ambitious and ready to act!

## Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Most of you are totally absorbed with dealing with shared property, taxes, debt and the wealth of someone else. You might be busy with financial transactions, inheritances and red-tape details. One thing is certain: discussions about these areas will go well this week, especially on Monday. Meanwhile, you're keen to make travel plans. Venus encourages travel for pleasure as well as romance with someone "different." Mars will make you act on these desires.

## Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Partnerships and close friendships continue to be a big focus for you this week. This gives you the best opportunity in the year to rethink and rework the details of your closest relationships. For starters, you will have more objectivity to see your own role in these relationships. That could be illuminating. On Monday, an important discussion with someone will be upbeat and perhaps ambitious in its scope. We're talking big ideas!

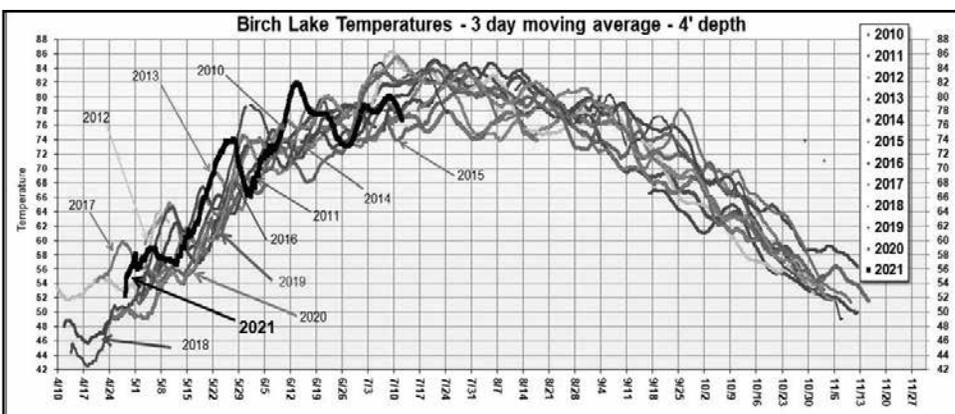
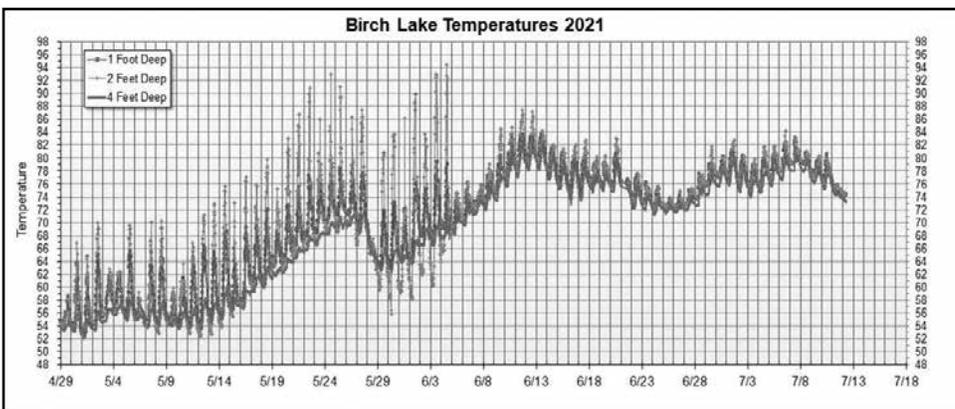
## Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

You continue to be in work mode, which is good because you want to accomplish a lot right now. You're enthused about your job or any project that you're doing, which is why discussions with others at the beginning of the week are ambitious and exciting. Discussions about business and commercial activities will go well, especially Monday. This is a good time to sign contracts. Your mind is very sharp and quick to see the big picture.

## Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

It continues to be play city for your sign! Lucky you! Accept all invitations to party. Enjoy sports events, social outings, playful activities with kids, little or big vacations as well as chances to express your creative talents. Romance will flourish! At the beginning of this week, you might be excited about big vacation plans or plans related to a major social event or something to do with your kids. A lovely week!

# Birch Lake Environmental Data



Temps provided by Steve Quinlan

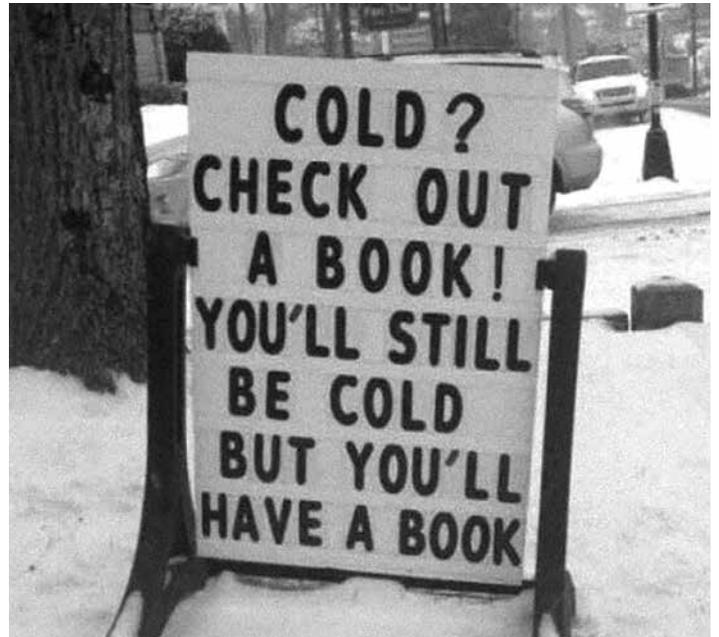
## The Moon for this Saturday

(At Midnight, US Central time, as viewed from the Northern Hemisphere)  
Illuminated Fraction: 0.594  
0.9 days since first quarter



Sunrise: 06:20:33 AM  
Sunset: 21:15:55 PM  
Moonrise: 14:26:50 PM  
Moonset: 01:09:44 AM  
Daylight: 14 Hr 55 Min 21 Sec

# Birch Barker Funnies





# ~Birch Lake Recipes~



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

## Watermelon Sangria

**T**his is one of my favorite recipes I have borrowed from a friend. If you love watermelon, this is the perfect drink for a hot summer day!

### Ingredients

- 12 cups cubed watermelon, divided
- 1 (750) milliliter bottle dry white wine
- 1 cup vodka
- ½ cup triple sec
- ½ cup simple syrup
- 1 medium lime, quartered
- 1 orange, cut into wedges
- 1 cup fresh blueberries

### Directions

Place 9 cups of watermelon cubes in a blender; blend on high until very smooth. Strain juice through a mesh strainer into large pitcher. Pour the wine, vodka, triple sec, and simple syrup into pitcher. Stir to com-



bine. Mix the remaining 3 cups of watermelon cubes, the lime quarters, orange sections, and blueberries into the sangria. Chill for 4 hours before serving.

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# — Camp Tannadoonah —

## Half way point of summer camp

**W**e're past the halfway point of our camp summer – it's hard to believe it's going so fast. This week we're in the midst of what we call "Super Week." Campers who sign up for Super Week are here for both our three-day mini camp and a full regular week of camp, so they're here for a total of 10 days.

We also have our CIT 2s here this week. These are the second-year Counselors in Training (CIT 2), learning about what it's like to be a camp staff member. They are here for two and a half weeks of camp, and started out their session with a three-day tent camping trip at Lawless Park!

They cooked out all of their own meals over the campfire, hiked the trails, and spend three nights in tents with two of our camp staff, deep in the woods of the park. They had access to a hand pump for water, and outhouses for bathrooms. Despite the damp weather and frequent rain showers, they all came back to camp on Saturday in good spirits and said they had a great time!

For this week, we have a total of 136 campers at camp; 102 overnight campers and 34 day campers. For the summer, we're up to 1088 registered campers – our biggest summer EVER! We do still

have a few spots open for overnight campers for our last three weeks of camp (the last week of July, and first two weeks of August), if you're still considering sending a camper to camp this year.

This week our energy is focused on our American Camp Association (ACA) Accreditation visit. On Wednesday we have a visitor from the ACA who comes to camp for the day, and verifies that we are following all of the guidelines and recommendations. We are re-accredited every five years, and being an ACA accredited camp is an indication for prospective camp parents that we are a safe and positive place for campers.

There are seven different areas that we are evaluated on for ACA: Core and Foundational Standards; Administration; Facilities; Health and Wellness; Staff Qualifications, Training, and Supervision; Program Design and Activities; and Program Aquatics. There are a total of 176 standards across these seven areas that we are required to document how we meet or exceed the recommendations for accreditation.

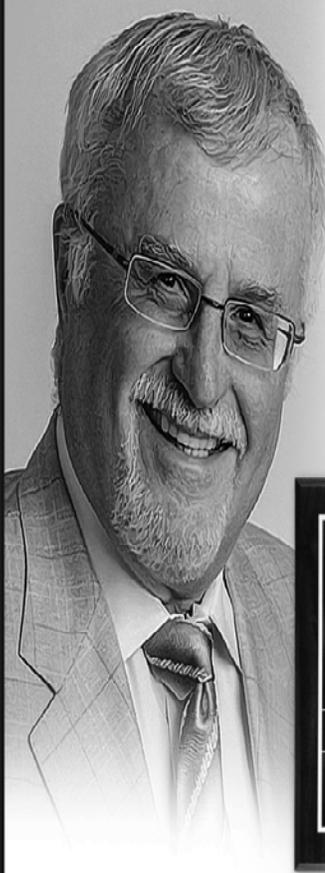
Over the past few months, Adam and I have collected seven binders full of written explanations, documents, certificates, checklists, and other information to share with our ACA visitors. One of



the really interesting aspects about the process is that all of the visitors are volunteers who work in the camp industry. So our visitors will be two people who work at other camps in Michigan who have volunteered to visit and review another camp.

I also volunteer as a visitor, so next week, I will be going to another camp for their accreditation visit. It's a fun opportunity to see other camp programs, learn about their operations, meet their staff, and see how they do things at other places. I always come back to Tannadoonah with new ideas about how we should do things here, too!

~Mrs. Amber



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# CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

## FOR SALE

**24' camper.** 1 large slide out. 2 queen size beds. Shower. Bathroom, A/C, TV, Microwave, stove/ oven. Very clean. Makes for a great over-flow for guests. Asking \$13,000. Bob Groszek (south side) 219-384-9291

**7' adjustable solid steel ladder.** Contact Bud Hall (C) 219-669-9711. \$50.



**Solid Oak corner TV cabinet.** Fits up to a 42 inch TV. Has lots of storage with attractive glass doors. Asking \$100. Call Margie Trybus (east side) 269-476-

2563 or 312-802-8201.

## FOR RENT:

Are you interested in a unique fun vacation? Check out our Florida Village house at [ourhome4rent.com/cjp](http://ourhome4rent.com/cjp) Call 574-596-2154 for more info.

## WANTED:

**Wanted to rent:** a place for 6 adults and 2 kids (aged 13 and 15) between 23 and 27 July...or, if a weekly rental is required then 23-30 July. Email [aathanas@awf.org](mailto:aathanas@awf.org), DIRECT: +41229990146 MOBILE: +41799696066 | SKYPE: Andrea\_Athanas | [www.awf.org](http://www.awf.org) or contact Camille Butler at (574)

596-1066.

**Wanted: Indoor storage for three pontoon boats** for the winter. Call Phil at 476-1680

**Wanted: Person interested in working few hours a week** with random yard work/ watering (not mowing) for few hours each week. Call or text Matt 574-274-8253

## SERVICES:

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

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Classified ads in the Birch Barker are free to BLYC members, \$5/week for everyone else. Send your ad to me at [sailorphil@philvitale.com](mailto:sailorphil@philvitale.com). If you no longer need your ad to run in the Barker please let me know so I can pull it.



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# HOW TO BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR

## MIND YOUR WAKE!

*Boat wakes can damage the lake bottom, sea walls, docks and piers. Please keep all boats 100' away from structures, other boats, rafts and fragile areas. See page 7.*



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

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Sue Williams (S).....476-8886  
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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 \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_ - Sailing Fees (\$15 / year)

\$ \_\_\_ - Building Improvement Fund

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_ - Fireworks Fund

\$ \_\_\_ - Water Quality Program

\$ \_\_\_ - Milfoil/Loosestrife Eradication

\$ \_\_\_ - Safety Committee

\$ \_\_\_ - Other non-party related expenses

\$ \_\_\_ - BLYC Roof Fund

\$ \_\_\_ - BLYC AED Fund

\$ \_\_\_ - Misc.

Make checks payable to

**BLYC**

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

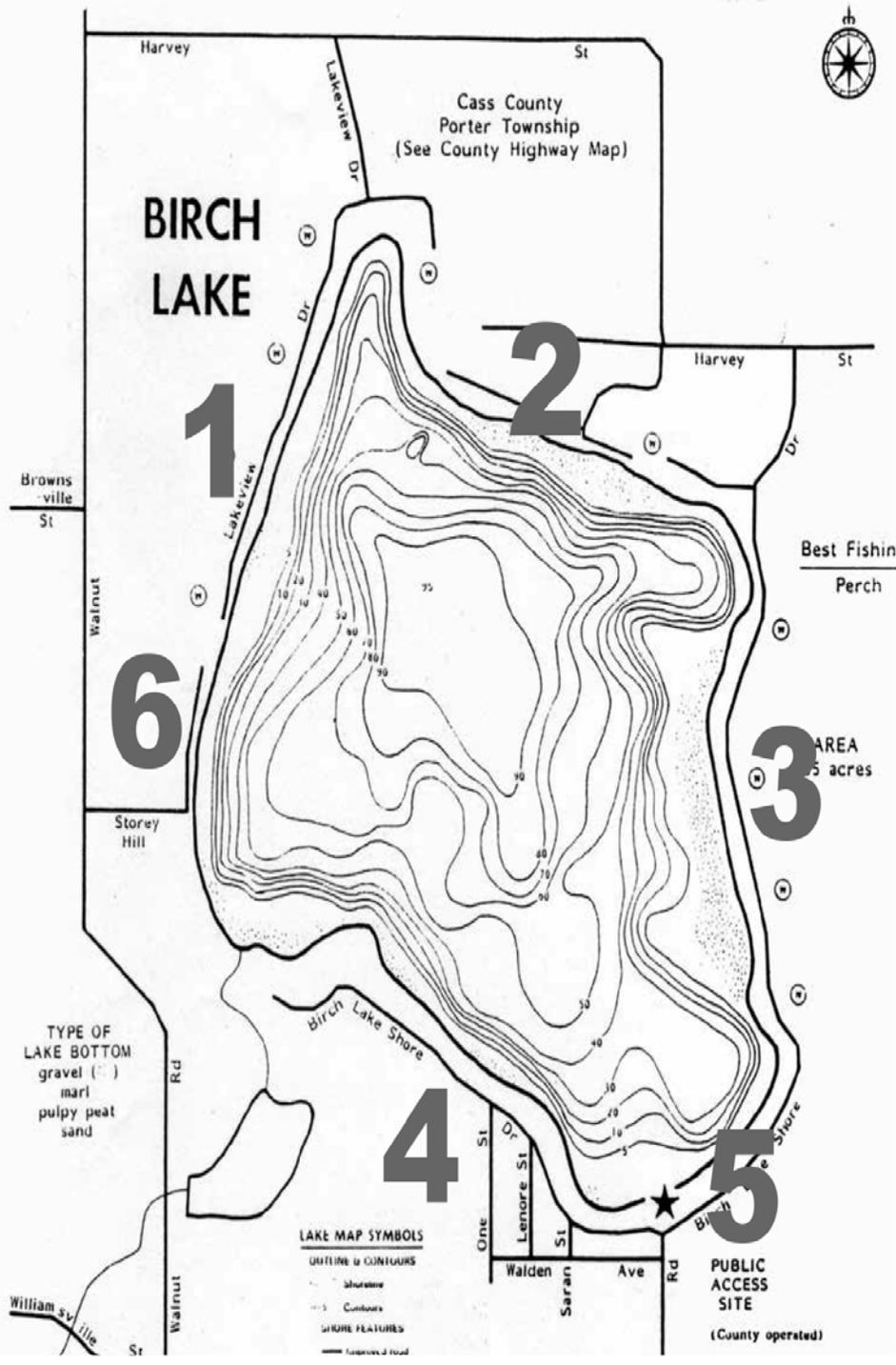
Now you can go online at [HTTP://BIRCHLAKEYACHTCLUB.COM](http://BIRCHLAKEYACHTCLUB.COM) to pay your dues

# EMERGENCY HEART DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) locations on Birch Lake

**CALL 9-1-1**



**FOR  
EMERGENCY  
USE ONLY  
ALARM WILL  
SOUND**



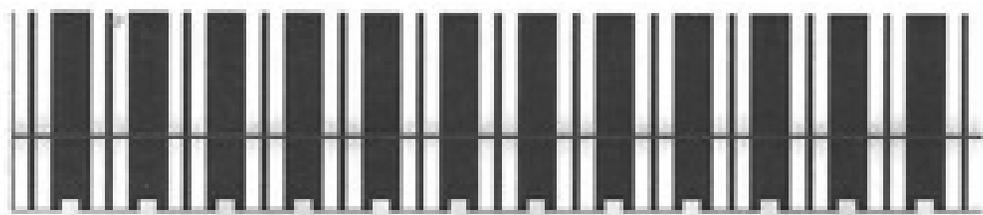
There are six (6) automated external defibrillator units on Birch Lake. The boxes that contain these devices are located at the following locations (see map):

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

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

## IN AN EMERGENCY:

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



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