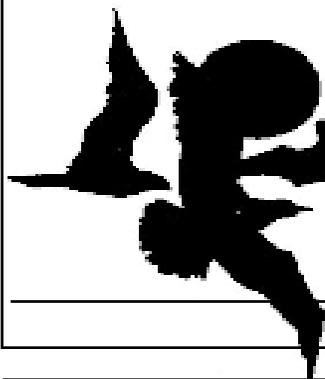


The  
Weekend  
Of

June 3,  
2023



# Birch Barker

The official summer publication of the  
B i r c h L a k e Y a c h t C l u b



Great Blue Heron that was hanging out on the east side pier of my neighbors, Bill and Bad Patty Luecht.

photo by Phil Vitale

**M**other Nature did not disappoint us for the Memorial Day weekend. The skies were clear and the temperatures were just right for all of the activity on and around the lake with boaters, tubers, skiers, walkers and the like. I was told that the sailors had decent wind to accomplish three races on Saturday, leaving Sunday free to be with their families.

I would hope that everyone had a chance to read the water quality report that was delivered last week with your barker. It is up to all residents to see to it that our lake stays clean so its beauty can be enjoyed by future generations. Please donate generously to our water quality programs if you have not already done so.

I have observed quite a few dog walkers over the past couple of weeks around the lake community. Just a reminder to be a responsible pet owner by keeping your pets under your control at all times and to be respectful of your neighbor's property, picking up after

pets and disposing of their waste properly.

Be sure to check this issue of the Barker for information on upcoming events, with Trivia Night happening this weekend at the Yacht Club. I hope to see a good-sized crowd in attendance.

Stay safe on the water, obey the rules and remember,, the sun always shines on Birch Lake, even on a cloudy day.

~Commodore Deb

### Com/Vice/Stock the Bar Party

It's Fiesta Time at Birch Lake! Come and meet Commodore Deb Hall and Vice Commodore Sue Davis for the annual Commodore/Vice Commodore party on Saturday June 10 at 6:30 pm at the Yacht Club. There will be music, frozen margaritas (regular and strawberry), tamales and a prize given out for the best costume.

Last name beginning with A-M, bring an appetizer, last name beginning with N-Z bring a dessert.

### BLYC and Facebook and other Social Media

The Birch Lake Yacht Club DOES NOT have a Facebook page, nor is it participating in any form of social media. If you see Birch Lake Yacht Club information on any social media, the information has not been provided, checked or approved by the BLYC, and may be incorrect or misleading. If you have questions or concerns, please check <http://www.philvitale.com/Barker/BirchBarker.htm>, or contact any BLYC director or officer (see "officer and director" information in any edition of the Barker).

## 2023 Birch Lake Calendar

- June 3** Trivia Night, 6:30 pm, BLYC
- June 10** Com/Vice & Stock the Bar Party, details/page 2
- June 24** Spaghetti Dinner, details/page 9
- July 1** Boat Parade, details tba
- July 1** Fireworks (weather permitting)
- July 21** Ladies Golf, details tba
- July 22** BLYC Family Picnic, details tba
- July 28** Men's Golf Outing, details/page 9
- Aug. 5** Home Owner's Assoc. annual meeting, details tba
- Aug. 5** Corn & Sausage Roast, 5:30-7 pm, BLYC
- Aug. 12 - Kidz Regatta, Kings,** details tba
- Aug. 26** Fall Dinner & annual meeting, , details tba
- Sept 2, 3** Labor Day Regatta, (Sept 4 regatta rain date), details tba
- Sept. ?** Sailing awards luncheon, date & details tba
- Oct. ?** Crockpot challenge, date & details tba

### 2023 BLYC Board Meetings

June 3, July 8, Aug. 5, Sept. 9  
BLYC board meetings are held at the Birch Lake Yacht Club beginning at 9 am, and meetings are open to all lake residents

The Birch Barker will consider ads and editorial items for publication. E-mail items to [onlinebarker@gmail.com](mailto:onlinebarker@gmail.com), mail them (or put them in the stone mailbox to) 63174 Birch Rd. (East Shore). **Contact Editor Phil** at [onlinebarker@gmail.com](mailto:onlinebarker@gmail.com), or at 476-1680 (no text). **Contact Commodore Deb Hall**, via email at [debbershall@gmail.com](mailto:debbershall@gmail.com) or 219-765-8691. **DEADLINE** is always Noon on the Tuesday of the week before the publication.

# — Birch Lake Notes —

This is also our "Stock the Bar" event. Beer, wine and non-alcoholic beverage contributions are welcome, to be used at upcoming BLYC sponsored events during the summer. Hope to see you there!

## SLOW DOWN SIGNS

If you haven't already please put out your SLOW DOWN signs to remind everyone that summer is here and it's time to hit the brake!

If you want/need one of our turtle Slow Down signs please contact Blair Garceau. Leave a message at (269)476-9862.

## Recycling

Contrary to earlier reports, according to a spokesperson at Waste Management has reported that the company does not offer recycling with residential trash pickup in our area.

Waste Management does offer a drop-off recycling program. Every Saturday from 7:30-11:30 am, you can drop off your recycling at the Waste Management landfill, at the Roberts Rd. entrance. (Take M-60 towards Three Rivers, turn left on Roberts Rd., one half mile on the left is the entrance) where they will accept residential paper (newspaper, magazines, phone books, cereal

boxes, corrugated cardboard, copy paper, mail and other office papers (no wax liners, plastic or carbon sheets, lamination metal or metal or plastic bindings. They will also accept cans, aluminum trays, foil, bottles, jars, plastic bottles. All containers must be empty, caps removed and preferably crushed or flattened.

Special items: please separate Styrofoam egg cartons, wine corks and interesting wine bottles for local artists, 10-cent cans, electronics, Styrofoam packaging, food containers and trays.

There is a \$1 fee for non-Fabius Twp. residents.

## Happy Birthday Sanya

Today, June 3, is the 50th birthday of our daughter, Sanya Vitale. She plans to spend a long weekend in the Columbus, Ohio area. Happy birthday Sanya, we love you very much.

~Mom and Dad

## TRIVIA NIGHT

Grab your friends/neighbors/family and come to the second annual Trivia Night at the Birch Lake Yacht Club. Last year's event was a huge success - don't miss out on the fun! You can either form your own team or just come individually, and we'll get you on a team. Teams can be anywhere from one to

## Birch Lake Yacht Club FIREWORKS FUND

2023's goal is  
**\$15,775.**

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# — Birch Lake Notes —

eight people. **Saturday, June 3**, at the yacht club; doors open @ 6:30 - Trivia begins PROMPTLY @ 7 pm.

Bring your own drinks, a dish to share (either appetizer or dessert), paper and pen and your wallet (with money for 50-50 raffle and to buy mulligans - good for free answers).

All proceeds go to our Fireworks Fund. Questions - contact Blair Garceau 269-476-9862 or Sue Williams 574-298-2839. Hope to see you there!

## Bladder Boat Information

As a Bladder Boat owner, I too am concerned with the latest water quality report. While the composite score can raise for many reasons, and as the report notes, "the raised levels are likely from a mixture of changes in the earth itself, water levels, ice volumes, temperatures, winds, invasive species, lake activities, etc." It seems other Barker contributors like to call out the Bladder Boats as the problem. Because of this, I wanted to write an educational, informational piece about these boats. It has come to my attention that people who have never been on a bladder boat aren't aware with how they work. Bladder boats have ballasts (bladders) that fill to weigh down the back of the boat for a wave that you can "surf" on. We do this in the center of the lake where it is very deep. Surfing is very hard, so we don't go long distances, and when we are done



Thanks to Mr. Bob (King, north side) for the great cloud photo he shot recently.

surfing, we empty the ballasts. When we tube, wakeboard, ski, kneeboard, or cruise, our ballasts are empty, and our boat is just like any other inboard boat on the lake. In fact, if I tried to go home with my ballasts full, not only would I hit bottom (and ruin our boat), I would not be able to raise the boat without breaking my boat lift due to the extra weight. So, fellow bladder boat owners,

please stick to the center when you surf, as our numbers grow, it is pertinent that we are being careful, conscious boat owners. Let's all remember that Birch is an "all sports" lake which allows for all kinds of activities that not everyone has to like or enjoy, but we all need to tolerate. Happy Boating.

~Sarah Petty

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# — Birch Lake Notes —

## It's duck (swimmer's) itch season

It's duck itch season at Birch Lake, so be aware ...

Duck itch, also called swimmer's itch, is a rash that can occur after you go swimming or wading outdoors. It's most common after being in freshwater lakes and ponds, but you can get it in saltwater too.

The itch is usually caused by a reaction to tiny parasites in the water that burrow into your skin while you're swimming or wading in warm, calm water. These parasites can't survive in people, so they soon die.

Swimmer's itch usually clears on its own within a few days. In the meantime, you can control itching with medicine.

### Symptoms

Swimmer's itch symptoms include an itchy rash that looks like pimples or blisters. Symptoms may begin within minutes or as long as two days after swimming or wading in contaminated water.

Usually the rash affects skin that's not covered by swimsuits, wetsuits or waders. Your sensitivity to swimmer's itch can increase each time you're exposed to the parasites that cause it.

### When to see a doctor

Talk to your health care provider



if you have a rash after swimming that lasts more than a week. If you notice pus at the rash site, check with your health care provider. You might be referred to a doctor who specializes in skin conditions (dermatologist).

### Causes

Swimmer's itch is caused by an allergic reaction to parasites that burrow into your skin from warm water. These parasites are found in some animals that live near ponds and lakes, including geese, ducks and muskrats.

The parasites' eggs get into the water through the animals' waste. When the young parasites hatch, they live and grow in a type of snail that lives in shallow water. The snails then release the parasites into the water, where they can infect humans.

Swimmer's itch isn't contagious from person to person.

### Risk factors

Factors that can increase the risk of swimmer's itch include:

Spending time in water that's infested with certain parasites.

Forgetting to dry off with a towel after getting out of the water.

Being sensitive to the parasites that cause swimmer's itch.

### Complications

Swimmer's itch usually isn't serious, but your skin can become infected if you scratch the rash.

### Prevention

Follow these tips to avoid swimmer's itch:

Choose swimming spots carefully. Avoid being in water near the shore where swimmer's itch is a known problem or where signs have been posted warning of the risk. Also avoid being in marshy areas where snails are often found.

Rinse after swimming. Rinse exposed skin with clean water right after leaving the water. Then dry the skin with a towel.

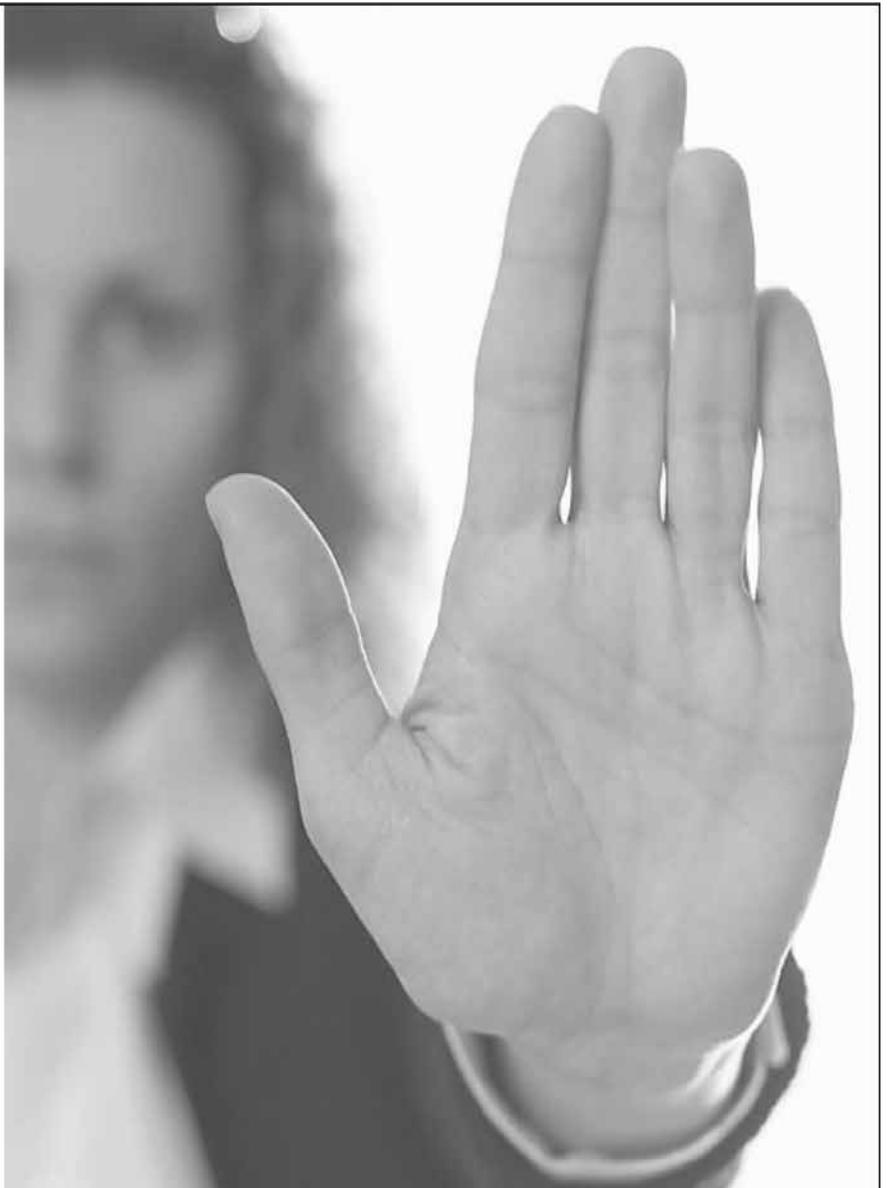
Skip the bread crumbs. Don't feed birds on piers or near swimming areas.

# SLOW DOWN

**BIRCH LAKE HAS  
NARROW ROADS,  
LOTS OF PEDESTRIANS,  
A TON OF CHILDREN,  
GRANDCHILDREN AND PETS**

**SLOW DOWN ON  
OUR ROADS  
AND ON THE HILLS  
TO AND FROM  
THE LAKE!**

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15<sub>MPH</sub>**



# — Barker Kid of the Week —



*Harvey Reckelhoff, grandson of Dave Dufour (east side) and pal Eleanor Hirons relaxing on the boat Memorial Day week-end.*



*Congratulations to our oldest Granddaughter Greta Boecher, Elkhart High School class of 2023. Grandma and Papaw Russwurm (north side) are so proud of you.*

## Birch Barker Kids of the Week

Want your kid to be a Barker Kid of the Week? Mail (or drop off) your photo (with a SASE if you want it back) to Birch Barker, 63174 Birch Rd., Vandalia, MI 49095; or put them in a or email me at [Sailorphil@PhilVitale.com](mailto:Sailorphil@PhilVitale.com) or [Onlinebarker@gmail.com](mailto:Onlinebarker@gmail.com) ... no texts!

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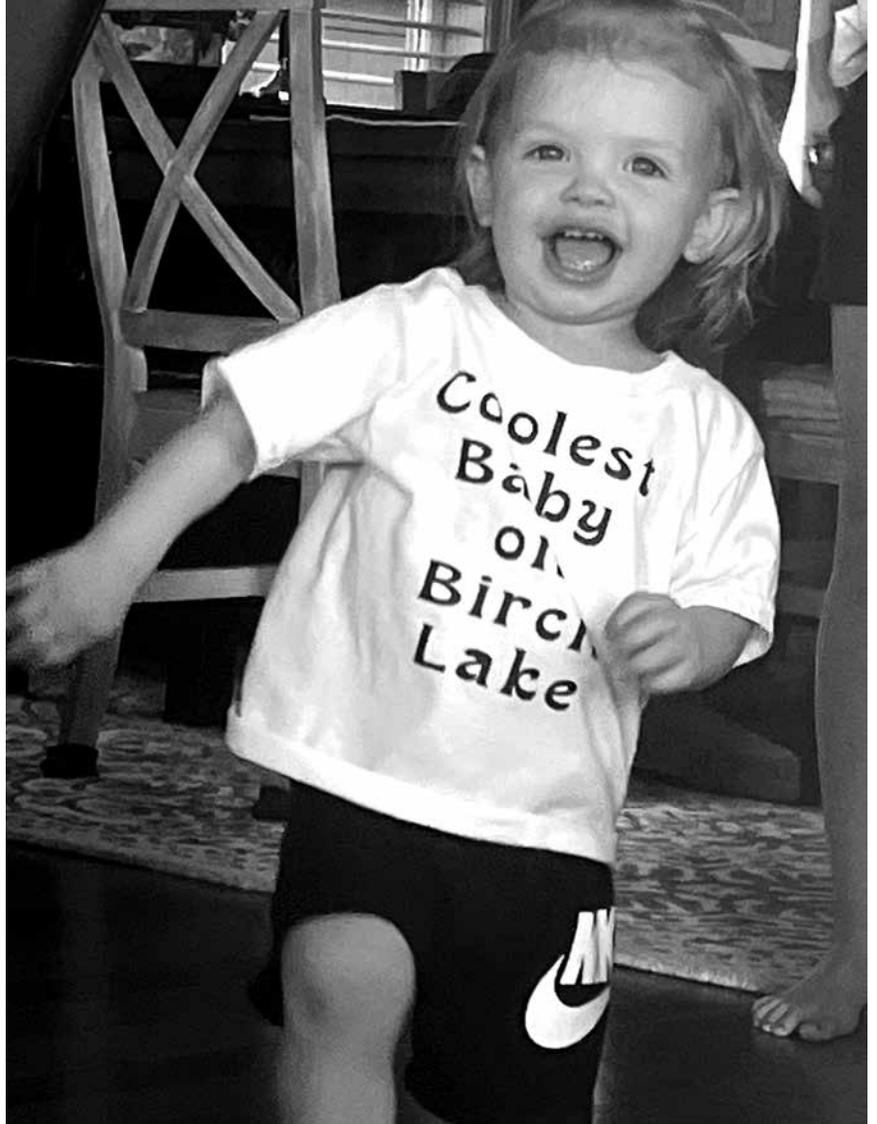
**269-445-8877**

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

# — Barker Kid of the Week —



*There's a new Birch Lake Boy on the East Side! Welcome Dean Michael Balgoyen, son of Ryan and Carrie (Curtis) Balgoyen, grandson of Steve and Deborah Curtis, Great Nephew of Eric and Karen (Curtis) Miller and Godson of Cindy and Kevin Bernaciak. He's a delight!*



*Kayson Ball, grandson of John and Jennifer Ball, east side.*

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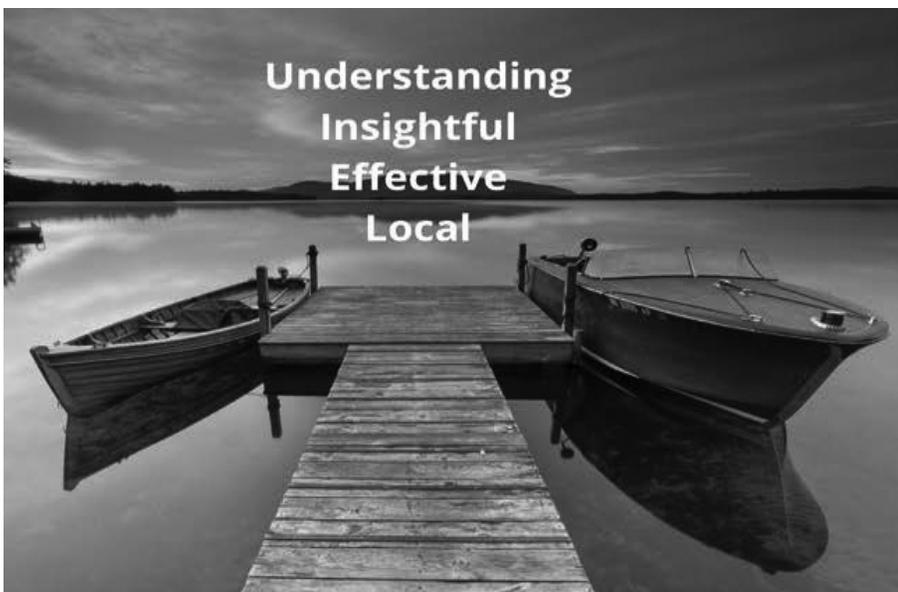
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# BIRCH LAKE SAILING



The Birch Lake Sailors kicked off our season with a good turnout for our traditional Memorial Day Regatta. Saturday brought a light six mph breeze with occasional gusts to nine mph, but hitting only the northwest quadrant of the lake. Course Setting Captain Tom Cassady and First Mate Vic Jones skillfully set a great short course in the windy part of the lake, that allowed us to get three races completed. And many thanks to Tom and Vic for also doing double duty as

Committee Boat captain and crew! Both of our fleets saw tough competition for first place in the Regatta. In the MC Fleet, Scott Troeger went 1-2-1 while Barb Cassady scored 2-1-2. Phil Vitale notched 2 third place spots, while Bob King got the other. And in the Sunfish Fleet, Rick Russwurm sailed 1-1-2 while Pat McGann sailed his newly painted, Notre Dame-themed Sunfish to victory in the 3rd race, going 2-2-1 overall. Bob Niezgodski sailed to third place in the first two races, and Cam Butler

won third place in the third race. A special Honorable Mention goes to Team Caplis, consisting of Junior Sunfish Captain Connor and Proud Dad Tom, who sailed out to join the Sunfish Fleet for the Regatta. Unfortunately, a small rigging problem turned into a large one on the lake, and they couldn't turn, so had to limp their way back home. But they are undaunted, and promise to get 'em next time! That's the Birch Lake spirit we like to see!  
~F.C. Steve

## Memorial Day Regatta / season standings

Date	27-May	27-May	27-May	Total	Place	Races	%
Race	1	2	3	Points		Finished	Finished
<b>MC Scow/Sailor</b>						<b>MC Races</b>	
Scott Troeger #1489	1	2	1	4	1	3	100%
Barb Cassady #2506	2	1	2	5	2	3	100%
Phil Vitale #500	3	3	4	10	3	3	100%
Bob King #1199	4	4	3	11	4	3	100%
Steve Frew	5	6	5	16	5	3	100%
Sandy Vitale	6	5	6	17	6	3	100%
<b>Sunfish/Sailor</b>						<b>Sunfish races</b>	
Rick Russwurm	1	1	2	4	1	3	100%
Pat McGann	2	2	1	5	2	3	100%
Bob Niezgodski	3	3	4	10	3	3	100%
Camille Butler	4	4	3	11	4	3	100%

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, you 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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# — Water Quality Report —

## Water quality dollars and sense

**B**etween our two funds last year, we collected \$6,800 in voluntary donations, about \$1,000 less than we spent (\$7,800).

Only money from these two donation sources is used to support water quality and/or milfoil activities. None of the YC dues, or other listed contribution designations, are used to pay water quality related expenses. Due to a combination of past good luck and donor generosity, we had enough cash on hand to cover shortfalls of that nature. (The \$6800 collected for Water Quality and Milfoil combined is less than half of what is contributed and spent for fireworks each year.)

While \$20K in reserve may seem to be plenty, when, not if, some other more troublesome invasive species arrives in our waters, easily costing in excess of that amount, or maybe even into six figures, we will need to be able to respond immediately with money in hand.

Please recall that starry stonewort already exists in our millpond, only a few hundred feet away from our lake. Last week we learned from the 2022 CLMP report that, even without the starry stonewort, our lake's water quality decreased by 15 percent in 2022. The crisis is looming, we just don't know when it will arrive.

Fiscal prudence suggests there should be a minimum of \$100,000 set

side, soon, so that we will have the resources on hand to address whatever problems, at least initially, come our way. A handful of Michigan Lakes have already spent in that \$100K neighborhood to build themselves a boat wash station. (We are not advocating for a boat washing station, used to prevent the transfer of invasives from other bodies of water via boats, but just wanted to give an example of how committed some communities are to their lakes.)

So how do we get there? Our ideas:

1) Everybody, each of our 234 households, donates. At present only about 41 percent (less than half) of our 234 households contribute to either account. (This is embarrassing.) What of our physical possessions could possibly be more important to us than our water, and its quality? Maybe our homes, but what's the biggest single factor in their values? The water, our lake.

2) All households must contribute each and every year, so that a reserve can be built up and maintained.

3) Each household's annual contribution should be at least \$100, for starters. If you truly cannot afford that much, pay less, pay what you can, but pay something. Don't insult Mother Nature, her favorite lake, and your neighbors. If \$100 seems too high or arbitrary an amount, what if each household were

to contribute 10 percent of what they spend on property taxes each year? (\$100 suddenly seems more reasonable, doesn't it?)

This need to regularly pay your fair share stands in spite of your feelings for the Yacht Club, its directors and officers, the Water Quality Committee (particularly its Chair) and any other person or thing that you don't like. You need to pay in order to protect your investment. You've spent, and continue to spend, lots of extra dollars to come and stay here. Isn't it about time the lake gets a share of that?

We hope you are convinced and committed to doing your part from here on. Going forward, in order to track our progress, we will combine our two funds into one – "Water Quality/Invasive Species" and publish in each Barker the percentage of households that have contributed, and the average amount per household, to date. Let the wild rumpus begin.

Thanks in advance for your consideration and support.

~ *Water Quality Committee Members: Terry Dugan, Rick Russwurm, Jenn Ball, Bruce Wagner, Ron Niezgodski, Cindy Bernaciak, Pat Welch, Paul Fallon*

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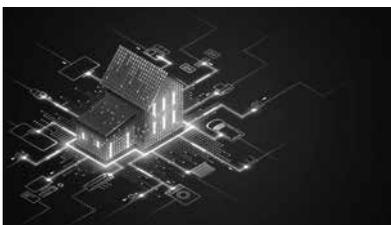
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# Birch Lake Distractions

## The Moon this Saturday

(At Midnight, US Central time,  
as viewed from the Northern Hemisphere)

Illuminated Fraction: 0.998  
0.1 days after full moon



Sunrise: 06:07:31 AM Sunset: 21:18:10 PM  
Moonrise: 21:16:44 PM  
PM Moonset: 05:23:40 AM  
Daylight Hours: 15 Hr 06 Min 10 Sec

## BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB



*All Proceeds to Birch Lake Water Quality*

**Saturday, June 24**

**5:30 - 7:30 PM**

Enjoy a great evening with family and friends!  
Dinner includes spaghetti with marinara and alfredo sauces,  
salad, dessert, and ice tea or lemonade. Take outs available.

Tickets can be purchased online at <https://store.birchlakeyachtclub.com/>

**Tickets must be purchased in advance**

Children 3 and under - Free Ages 4-10 - \$6.00 Ages 11-Adult - \$10.00

## BLYC 63rd Annual Birch Lake Yacht Club

# MEN'S GOLF OUTING

### FOUR MAN FLORIDA SCRAMBLE

**FRIDAY, JULY 28, 2023**

**\$75/MAN\***

**Hampshire Country Club - Dogwood Course**  
29592 Pokagon Hwy., Dowagiac

**Shotgun start at 8 am**

**Dinner and awards at BLYC**

**Cocktail Hour at 5 pm , Dinner and awards at 6 pm**

*Please submit your foursome registration to John Ball, 63690 Birch Road, Vandalia, MI 49095 574-535-3736*

**Make checks payable to BLYC**

**Individual registrations available**

**If you don't have a team, I can match you up**

***Must have completed registrations by July 17***

*Team prizes and contests*

*Catered dinner at BLYC included*

*Prizes awarded at dinner*

*Donations of door & team prizes needed\**

\*If you have access to logo or golf or lake related merchandise that could be donated, please

**Contact John Ball at [john.ball0452@gmail.com](mailto:john.ball0452@gmail.com)**

## 2023 BLYC Men's Golf Outing Foursome Information

TEAM CAPTAIN:

PLEASE PRINT NAMES

_____	_____
_____	_____

*Please make checks payable to BLYC and mail to John Ball, 63690 Birch Road, Vandalia, Mi 49095*

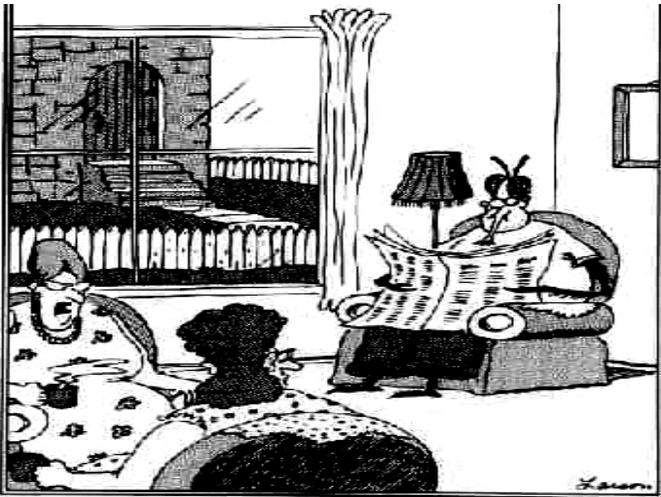
# Birch Barker Funnies

Of course a day without  
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"Well, lad, you caught me fair and square ...  
But truthfully, as far as leprechauns go, I've  
never been considered all that lucky."



"So George says, 'I'm goin' over there and  
tellin' that guy to shut that equipment off!'...  
So I said: 'George, that guy's a mad scientist.  
Call the cops. Don't go over there alone.'...  
Well, you know George."

**Every cigarette you  
smoke takes seven  
minutes off your  
student loan debt**

## Rules for the cat

The cat is not allowed on the  
furniture.

Alright, the cat can go on the  
furniture, but NOT the kitchen  
counter.

OK, the cat can go on the kitchen  
counter too, just not when I'm  
preparing food. Deal?

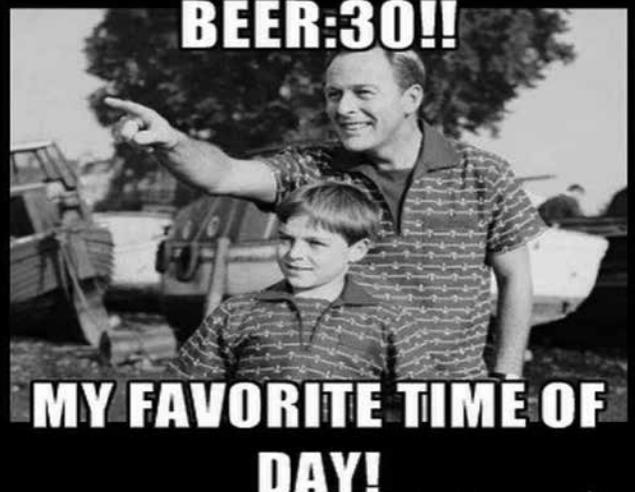
Fine... The cat can go wherever it  
wants, whenever it wants, as long as it  
doesn't swat me in the face at 5:30  
in the morning demanding to be fed.

The cat will be fed at 5:30 in the  
morning.

I didn't really need  
a sign, but okay.



**HEY LOOK!! ITS  
BEER:30!!**



**MY FAVORITE TIME OF  
DAY!**



# ~Birch Lake Recipes~



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

## Tomato spinach chicken spaghetti

**T**his chicken pasta recipe has lots of fresh ingredients: garlic, tomatoes, and spinach. This easy and quick dinner will become a family favorite!

Prep Time 10 minutes; Cook Time 20 minutes; Total Time 30 minutes  
Servings 4 servings; Calories 532kcal

### Ingredients

- 1/4 cup sun-dried tomatoes chopped, drained of oil
- 2 tablespoons olive oil drained from sun-dried tomatoes
- 1/2 lb chicken boneless and skinless (preferably, boneless skinless thighs), chopped
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon red pepper flakes
- 4 Roma tomatoes chopped
- 1/4 cup fresh basil leaves chopped
- 8 oz spinach fresh
- 3 garlic cloves chopped
- 8 oz spaghetti pasta
- 3 tablespoons olive oil (use high quality olive oil or oil from the sun-dried tomatoes jar)

### Instructions

1. Add chopped sun-dried tomatoes and 2 tablespoons of olive oil, drained from sun-dried tomatoes, to a large skillet, on



medium-low heat.

2. Add chopped chicken. I used boneless skinless chicken thighs and prefer to use them, but you can use chopped chicken breast, as well.
3. Add red pepper flakes, and salt over all of the ingredients in the skillet.
4. Cook on medium heat until the chicken is cooked through and no longer pink, about 5 minutes.
5. Add chopped tomatoes, chopped fresh basil leaves, fresh spinach, and chopped garlic to the skillet with chicken. Cook on medium heat for about 3-5 minutes until spinach wilts just a little, and tomatoes release some of their juices. Remove from heat.
6. Taste, and add more salt to taste, if needed. Cover with lid and keep off

heat.

7. Cook pasta according to package instructions, until al dente.
8. Drain. Add cooked and drained pasta to the skillet with the chicken and vegetables.
9. Reheat on low heat, mix everything well, add more seasonings (salt and pepper), if desired. Remove from heat.
10. At this point, when the pasta and vegetables are off heat, you can add more high-quality olive oil. It's optional but really tasty! Or you can add more olive oil from the jar from the sun-dried tomatoes.

*MH*  
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# — Camp Tannadoonah —

## Project Graduation June 4

**Important camp announcement:**  
*Please take note! On Sunday, June 4 we will be hosting "Project Graduation" for Edwardsburg HS. This is a graduation party for all of the graduating seniors, planned by a committee of parents. It's an alcohol-free event, intended to provide a safe and fun way to spend the night after graduation with friends. They have several stops along the way as part of the celebration, and they will be at camp for two hours before moving on to another activity. This year's event is western-themed, and they plan to have line dancing in the dining hall, yard games, and they've hired a mobile ax-throwing vendor! I wanted to make sure to alert everyone about this event because they will be at camp from 8pm to 10pm on Sunday evening, and there will be a DJ playing music. It will likely be quite loud, but it IS a time-limited event and they will be done and gone by 10 pm.*

We're off and running! Staff are here, and we've started training and preparation for campers to arrive! Our first group of campers will be here on June 11. We have lots of work to do to get ready for campers, including CPR and First Aid Training, Lifeguard Training, Archery training, cleaning, organizing, and setting

up cabins and activity areas, learning policies and procedures, practicing how to handle homesickness and other situations that may come up at camp, and LOTS of bonding with other staff members.

We practice emergency procedures, how meals work, how the daily schedule works, and how to teach each activity. We go over child protection policies and discipline, we talk about different ages and stages of development, how to lead a cabin meeting, and how to work with youth from different backgrounds. There is so much that goes into getting ready for campers!

Our staff is nearly complete for the summer, but we do still have a couple positions open if you know any college students still looking for summer jobs! Please send them to [tannadoonah.org/jobs](http://tannadoonah.org/jobs) if they're interested in applying for a position.

This year we have 10 staff members traveling to camp from overseas. We have staff coming from Ireland, the Netherlands, Mexico, the United Kingdom, Pakistan, Colombia, and South Africa. It's always a fun experience for campers to get to meet counselors from all over the world when they come to camp!

As of today, we have 1080 campers registered for the summer, and our goal is to get to 1200 total campers. We're



just about even with where we were last year at the end of May, and we finished last summer with 1208 registrations, so I think we will get there.

We have awarded nearly \$38,000 in scholarships for this summer, for campers who would otherwise not be able to attend a week of camp. We always have more applications for scholarships than we are able to award. If you are interested in donating to our campership fund, you can do so online at [donate.tannadoonah.org](http://donate.tannadoonah.org) or you can bring a check to camp. Any contribution amount is welcome! The cost for a full week of overnight camp is \$725.

We are looking forward to the Pancake Breakfast at camp on Sunday, July 2. Mark your calendars so you don't miss this annual event!

~Mrs. Amber

## Considering selling your lake home or property?

### Don't wait!

**Here are a few great reasons to put your home on the market.**

- Beat the competition
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- More people than ever are looking for a second home

Dennis Bamber and his group sold over 100 waterfront and lake access homes in Michigan and Indiana over the past few years.

Dennis has been a Diamond Lake resident for over 30 years. Many of the group's listings sold quickly and over asking price. Take advantage of their wealth of experience.



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\*Not intended to solicit any properties already listed for sale with another real estate agent.

# CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

## FOR SALE:

For Sale: **INVACARE Microair 85 hospital bed.** Purchased from Alick's Home Medical five years ago for \$3,685. Make an offer. Call Bud Z (East shore) 269-476-2526

For Sale: **Walking Chair,** new condition, cherry red color. \$50. Call Bud Z (East shore) 269-476-2526

## FOUND

This **wood item** floated up to our pier. Claim it by calling 269.476.900 or stopping by the Smitley's on the north shore.



## FOR RENT:

**Birch Cottage 4 Rent:** Three bedroom, one bath with tub and shower, **lakefront house on Birch Lake.** New granite

kitchen, new stainless appliances with dishwasher, washer and dryer. Nice pier with big platform. Plenty of parking. Possible ski, pontoon, row boat, and sailboats available for rent. Sleeps six in beds, room for more. Contact Pat McGann call/text 574-532-5377.

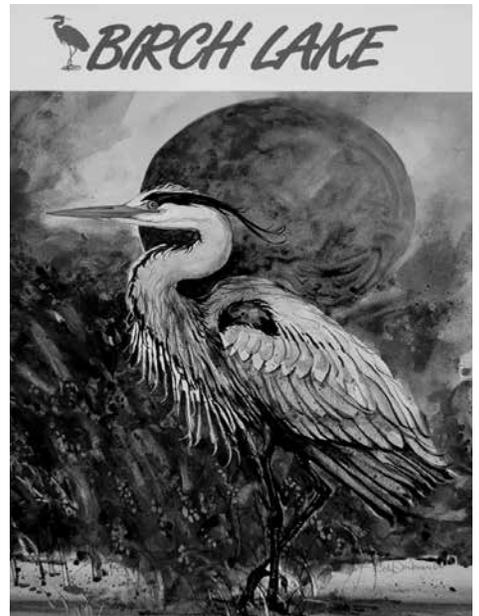
Interested in a unique fun vacation? Check out our **Florida Village house** at ourhome4rent.com/cjp Call 574-596-2154 for more info.

## WANTED

Wanted: **used kids' skis.** Contact the Soldatos at 312-590-2997.

## SERVICES:

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



*This beautiful poster is on sale this summer for \$25 while supplies last. It measures approximately 23" X 35", and would be a great addition to your home. The proceeds will be used for needed improvements to the yacht club building. Posters may be purchased through Becky Wiseman, 14910 Birch Lakeshore Drive (south side) on Saturday and Sunday from 11 am to 1 pm. Make checks payable to BLYC.*

**Editor's note:** The poster was produced from a painting by former Birch Lake resident and artist Coy Jankowski.

**BIRCH BARKER CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING**  
**Classified ads in the Birch Barker are free to BLYC members, \$5/week for everyone else. Send your ad to [onlinebarker@gmail.com](mailto:onlinebarker@gmail.com) or [sailorphil@philvitale.com](mailto:sailorphil@philvitale.com).**

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# HOW TO BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR

## Tip No 2: LOWER THE VOLUME

*We all have different tastes in music, but if you're blasting the tunes out the speakers on your boat, everyone on the lake and on shore has to listen to yours. Be considerate, especially at night, and please and **TURN DOWN THE RADIO** when you're motoring around the lake!*

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



# 2023 BLYC OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

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**Paul Fallon (E)** ..... Chairman, Water Quality  
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**Blair Garceau (E)** ..... Chairman, Homeowners  
476-9862 ..... [blairgarceau@gmail.com](mailto:blairgarceau@gmail.com)



# BIRCH LAKE YACHT CLUB

## IT'S TIME TO

# PAY YOUR 2023 DUES!



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

- \$ \_\_\_ - BLYC Member Dues (\$30 / year)
- \$ \_\_\_ - 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
- \$ \_\_\_ - Water Quality Program
- \$ \_\_\_ - Homeowners' Assoc. (\$10 / year)
- \$ \_\_\_ - Sailing Fees (\$15 / year)
- \$ \_\_\_ - Building Improvement Fund
- \$ \_\_\_ - **FIREWORKS FUND**
- \$ \_\_\_ - Milfoil/Loosestrife Eradication
- \$ \_\_\_ - Safety Committee
- \$ \_\_\_ - Other non-party related expenses
- \$ \_\_\_ - BLYC Roof Fund
- \$ \_\_\_ - BLYC AED Fund
- \$ \_\_\_ - Misc.

**Total contribution:**

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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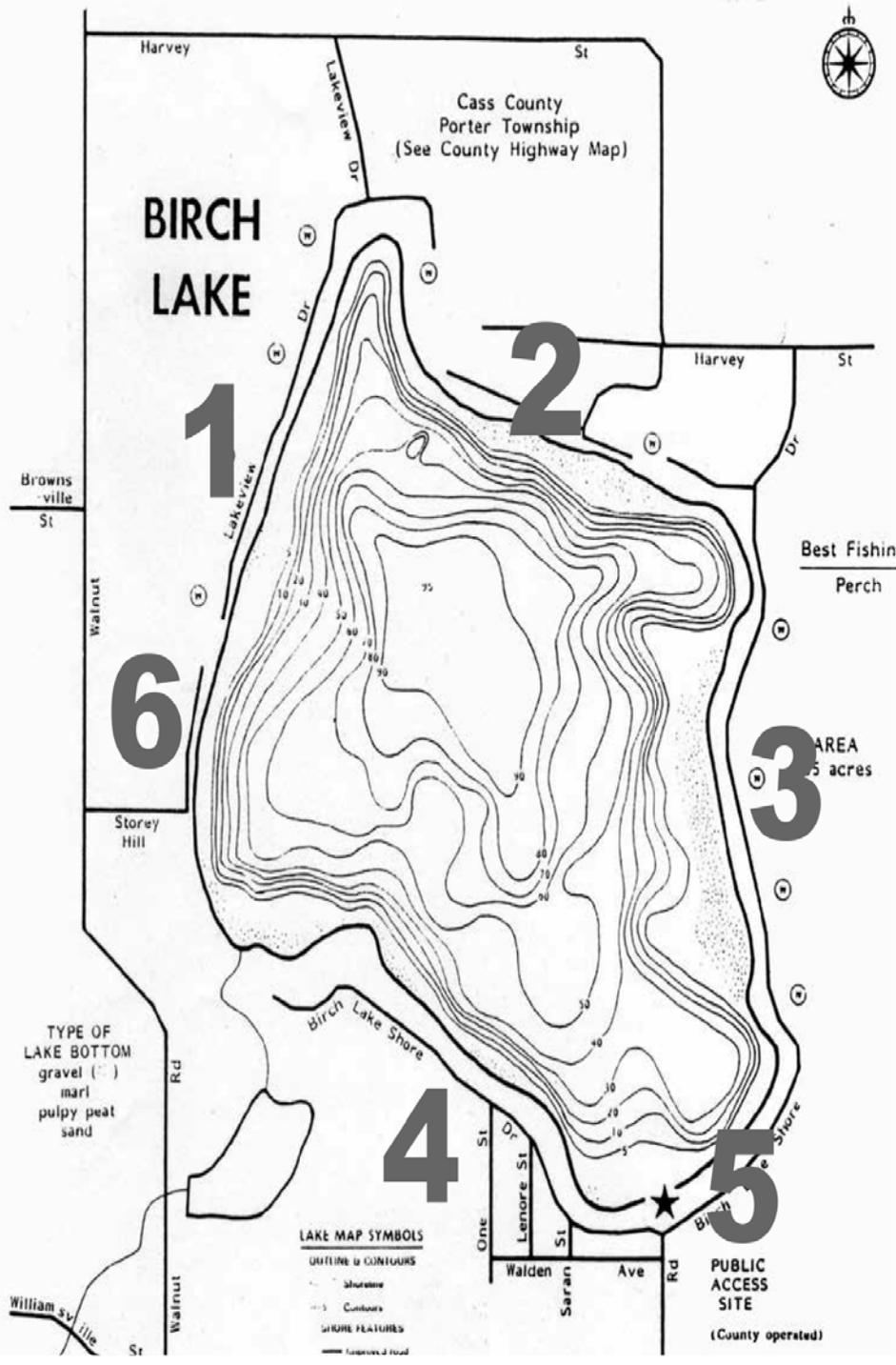
Now you can go online at [HTTP://BIRCHLAKEYACHTCLUB.COM](http://BIRCHLAKEYACHTCLUB.COM) to pay your dues

# EMERGENCY HEART DEFIBRILLATOR (AED) locations on Birch Lake

**CALL 9-1-1**



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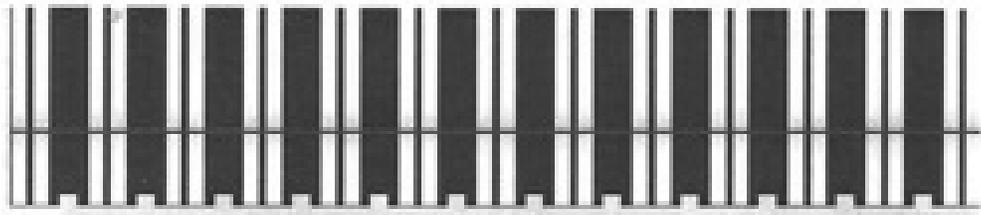
There are six (6) automated external defibrillator units on Birch Lake. The boxes that contain these devices are located at the following locations (see map):

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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