

The Birch Bark

White Birch Lakes Recreational Association

4730 Lake Road, Farwell, Michigan 48622

Office: (989) 588-2853 Fax: (989) 588-4924 Security: (989) 588-7066

June Issue

www.whitebirch.org

Volume 6

CLUBHOUSE HOURS

Monday	8:00 am	9:00 pm
Tuesday	8:00 am	9:00 pm
Wednesday	Closed	
Thursday	8:00 am	9:00 pm
Friday	8:00 am	9:00 pm
Saturday	10:00 am	9:00 pm
Sunday	10:00 am	5:00 pm

POOL HOURS JUNE – SEPTEMBER

Monday	1:00 pm	8:30 pm
Tuesday	1:00 pm	8:30 pm
Wednesday	Closed	
Thursday	1:00 pm	8:30 pm
Friday	1:00 pm	8:30 pm
Saturday	10:00 am	8:30 pm
Sunday	10:00 am	4:30 pm

OFFICE HOURS

Monday	8:00 am	4:00 pm
Tuesday	8:00 am	4:00 pm
Wednesday	Closed	
Thursday	8:00 am	8:00 pm
Friday	8:00 am	4:00 pm
Saturday	8:00 am	12:00 pm
Sunday	Closed	

COMMUNITY EVENTS & MEETING SCHEDULE

06/15/06	Activities Meeting	7:00 pm
06/17/06	4-H Club Camping Weekend	All Day
06/19/06	E.P.C. Meeting	10:00 am
06/19/06	Conservation Meeting	6:30 pm
06/26/06	Communications Meeting	7:00 pm
07/03/06	4 th of July Salute to Our Troops Parade	12:30 pm
07/03/06	Member Party	1:00 pm -9:00 pm
07/14/06	The absentee ballots can be returned anytime before 4 pm	
07/15/06	Annual Meeting – Election of Officers	10:00 am Campgrounds
07/17/06	Conservation Meeting	6:30 pm
07/24/06	Communications Meeting	7:00 pm



MEMORIAL WEEKEND AT WBLRA

Between the annual yard sale, hot dog stand, bake sale, fishing contest and many seasonal members returning to WBLRA, the association was just jumping with activity.

The weather for the holiday was perfect and we were able to catch a number of members enjoying themselves at the campgrounds and at both Timber and Holiday Lakes.

We hope all WBLRA members had a safe, happy and fun filled holiday weekend while remembering those that have died and are now serving our country in order to preserve our freedom, rights and our way of life.



The Birch Bark

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Marty Perkins
1st Vice President	Ken Passage
2nd Vice President	Al Isaac
Director	Dave Conley
Director	Marvin Frayer
Director	Scott Hayer
Director	Dan Holzer
Treasurer	Priscilla Moore
Secretary / Assist. Treasurer	Carrie Forfinski

STAFF AND COMMITTEES

Activities	Christina Van Pelt	588-3338
Campgrounds	Fred Witchell	588-6797
Communications	Terry Obrecht	588-0347
Conservation	Mike Turner	588-6496
Entrance	Theresa Turner	588-6496
E.P.C.	Chick Witchell	588-6797
Future Planning	Joe Romine	588-3155
Manager	Gail White	588-2853
Security	Bruce Rouston	588-7066
Seedlings & Saplings	Tina Hayer	588-0496
	Joe Romine	588-3155

JUNE BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Board Members Present:

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. by President Marty Perkins. Present were 1st Vice President Ken Passage, 2nd Vice President Al Isaac, Directors, Dave Conley, Marv Frayer, Scott Hayer, Dan Holzer, Treasurer Priscilla Moore, Secretary Carrie Forfinski.

Manager Present: Gail White

Board of Directors - Actions Taken:

- Tabled May Board Meeting Minutes due to changes.
- Approved moving \$27,500.00 in the Development Fund from the General Fund to an interest bearing account.
- Approved income statement, payables and auditor bill.
- Approved taking the \$1,000.00 error in the budget total from pool maintenance.
- Accepted Nominees running for election.
- Appointed Teller Committee.
- Approved gravel for Timber Beach access road.
- Approved Storage Shed issue to be placed on election ballot.
- Approved one Poll Watcher per candidate at the annual election.
- Rejected motion to suspend voting rights of Ken Passage due to co-owner issue on his property. Motion failed 2 "Yes"—5 "No"
- Approved tennis court repairs to be done by volunteer Fred Stephenson at cost of materials.
- Appointed Joe Romine chair of Future Planning Committee.
- Conditionally awarded electrical work at campgrounds to Northern Electric. Work to be phased in over time due to overall project cost of more than \$28,000.00.
- Awarded Stanley Propane WBLRA yearly propane contract.

PRESIDENTS CORNER

Hello Neighbors,

With the holidays been and gone, I was thinking to myself that WBLRA is just a wonderful place to live.

Seeing members on golf carts and ATV'S cruising the roads with happy smiles and giving a hardy wave just shows me that community recreation and the caring of our neighbors is the corner stone that makes WBLRA such a great place to be.

I myself spent a lot of the holiday weekend down at Timber Beach. I had the pleasure of meeting a boat load of member's lying in the sun and playing on the beach. It was great to see the kids swimming and tossing a football while I enjoyed a picnic lunch and the breeze off the lake. Wow, life is good.

If you have not had the chance to check out Timber Beach since the make over, take a moment to enjoy the park, the view is great.

There are important issues at hand, and with the election right around the corner I would like you all to consider the importance of voting. If you can make the election on the 15th of July that would be great, but if you can't please, again I say PLEASE, make your vote count with an absentee ballot.

It is important to elect those you are comfortable with to make decisions for you in your absence.

Be Safe, Be Happy and Enjoy the Summer!
Marty Perkins



Mike Turner
Gladwin Conservation District
989-426-9621 x 3

Wetland restorations	Streambank Restoration
Windbreaks	Riparian Forest Buffers
Native Grass Planting	Livestock Exclusions
Loader Tractor & Operator for Hire	



COMMUNITY CORNER

- The Country Store was a huge success, we made \$234 for the July 3rd Member Party. Thanks to the Bakers and Crafters who donated goods: Linda Conley, Dawn Holzer, Tammy Connelly, Belinda Wilson, Sylvia Wagner, Marty & Mary Perkins, Terry Obrecht, Christina Van Pelt, and Grandma Betty and for the bike donated by Steve.
- Our appreciation and special Board recognition to Dan Holzer for personally maintaining Angel Park off White Birch Lake all these years.
- Thank you to Kathy Lutz, Lot # 225 for the generous donation of a new park bench to be installed at Angel Park off White Birch Lake.

WBLRA MEMBER MEMORIAM

Gerard McCann of Farwell and White Birch Lakes Recreational Association resident, age 66, passed away June 3, 2006. Beloved husband of Patricia, loving father of Nancy (Robert) Crossland, and Janet (Bob) Hall and beloved brother of Thomas. Also survived by six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Visitation was held on Thursday, June 8th with funeral on Friday, June 9th 2006 at the Voran Funeral Home in Dearborn, MI. Our heartfelt sympathies go out to Patricia and the family.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified ads for items and services are "FREE" and can be posted by members only.
(Sorry, no real estate ads at this time)

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Ray Johnson and his Bass

MIGHTY FINE FISH

We have all heard the fish stories before about the "One that got away". Well, these fish didn't and we got pictures to prove it! WBLRA is a great place to do some serious fishing!

Just ask members Ray Johnson and Ed Poterek Jr. who recently caught some mighty fine fish. Ray caught a 20" Bass on April 16th that he released back into the lake and Ed caught a 27 1/2" Walleye on May 2nd that we were told made for an excellent meal!

Both these were caught in White Birch Lake so come out and try your luck on the lakes.



Ed Poterek Jr. and his Walleye

COUNTY WIDE SEPTIC TANK CLEANING

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"#1 IN A #2 BUSINESS"

The Birch Bark

CONDENSED MONTHLY INCOME STATEMENT MAY 1 - MAY. 31, 2006

	<u>MAY. 1 – May 31, 2006</u>	<u>Year To Date</u>	<u>2006/2007 BUDGET</u>
TOTAL INCOME	22,549.84	280,949.83	442,000.00
EXPENSES			
Exec. Payroll	14,014.05	34,824.44	135,300.00
Office Expense	900.01	4,790.59	17,250.00
Roads	11,646.61	12,718.58	37,900.00
Clubhouse Maintenance	6,126.36	16,710.32	63,700.00
Campground Maintenance	3,957.39	6,737.54	24,350.00
Entrance Costs	3,479.58	4,413.41	6,800.00
Capital Improvements	0.00	7,304.16	23,000.00
Gen. Assoc. Maint.	3,212.91	5,673.74	32,100.00
Maintenance Bldg.	39.05	300.68	3,750.00
Goods for Resale	42.60	295.53	5,000.00
Special Events	436.44	587.22	1,000.00
Professional Costs	765.48	6,325.33	10,000.00
Bd. & Committees	16.20	45.44	600.00
Security	1,921.86	3,108.31	13,800.00
EPC Costs	0.00	0.00	0.00
Lake Costs	542.35	8,203.89	21,450.00
Taxes & Insurance	-3.86	17,028.24	23,000.00
Debt Retirement	2,492.39	7,477.17	24,000.00
Lot Purchases	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTALS	49,589.42	136,169.59	442,000.00

<u>CASH BALANCE BY FUND</u>	<u>05/31/06</u>
General	28,299.07
Reserve	176,174.55
Petty Cash	125.00
Dev. Fund	27,500.00
Spa Fund	943.26
Furniture Fund	3,533.19
Playground	1,480.41
TOTAL CASH	238,055.48

REMINDER FROM THE MANAGER

Please don't forget to bring your membership card when you come to use the pool. Members need to show their cards to the attendant to gain access.

Thank You!



For illustration purposes only!

PERMANENT STORAGE SHEDS TO BE PLACED ON JULY BALLOT

The issue of amending the association Covenants & Restrictions to allow non-resident members to have a permanent shed on their lot will be placed on the July ballot for member vote. Votes can be cast in person or by absentee ballot.

A majority vote of the **entire** membership's eligible lots **MUST** be received in order for the amendment to pass and the Covenants & Restrictions to be modified.

A majority vote equals 51% of all eligible lots.

Eligible lots are all lots owned by members in good standing and on which all assessments are current.

Members can vote once for every lot that they pay assessments on.

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JIM REINKE



CONSERVATION COMMITTEE UPDATES

By: Mike Turner

On Sunday, May 21, 2006 eighteen members met at Timber Lake Beach Club to put some finishing touches on the Park. Which included: shoveling the sand into the lake, smoothing the beach, adding two truck loads of compost to the flower beds, planting 14 flats of native perennial plants that were donated by Mike & Theresa Turner and rearranging rocks by the flower beds.

Belinda and Craig Wilson donated two flats of annuals for instant color and Belinda donated sign paints and spent a day repainting the signs at Timber Beach.

A huge thank you goes out to the members that came out on such a cold, windy morning to assist with improving their neighborhood!

THANKS NEIGHBORS!!!

As was evident by the number of members using Timber Beach over Memorial Weekend; many times there were over forty members swimming at once, the Timber Beach Project was appreciated by the members. Holiday Lake was well used as well. The Porta-Potties received much use and the trash receptacles were a hit. If you haven't seen the photos of the members enjoying the Parks, go to www.whitebirch.org members' area and click on the photo album. Many of the volunteers commented that seeing so many members utilizing the Parks was why they volunteered so many hours to this Project.



PARTY AND PARADE

The WBLRA Member Party will be held at the campgrounds following the Salute to Our Troops Parade on July 3rd.

Please remember to decorate your vehicles (bikes, ATV's, golf carts, cars, trucks, etc.) and join the parade.

This is an opportunity for all members to just have a great time enjoying family, friends, activities, entertainment, good food and their association.

Thank you and hope to see you there!
Christina Van Pelt, Activities Committee

SEEDLINGS & SAPLINGS

By Tina Hayer

The Seedlings and Saplings had a very successful hot dog and lemonade stand this past Memorial weekend and we would like to thank our Master Griller, Dan Rahl for all his help in cooking the hot dogs to the proper temperature.

It was wonderful to have all the neighbors come out and support our children's fundraiser. Once we paid the association back \$163.50 for the supplies bought at Gordon Foods and the Health Department Inspection Fee of \$44.00, we made a little over \$200.00.

Thanks again from the Seedlings & Saplings, our children really appreciated the support.

Special thanks to Sheraya Graham, Cheryl Rahl, Tricia Stinson, Caroline Cheadle, Pat Zakalowski and the Romine's for all their help.

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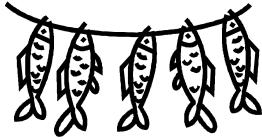
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KIDS FISHING CONTEST RESULTS

By Tina Hayer

The fishing contest was a huge success despite the rain before the contest began. We had many brave children show up with their fishing poles and worms.

Many parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles came with their children to join the fun.

The First Place fish was a 19" Bass, Second Place a 17 1/2" Bass and Third Place a 15 1/2" Bass.

There were many, many Pan fish caught. All in all the rain held off and many fish were caught. Each child won free ice cream from the clubhouse and a fishing item for a prize.

Thanks to all that helped this to be another successful contest. Thank you to all the parents for helping us to encourage our children to enjoy our beautiful White Birch Lakes.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

CAULIFLOWER DIP

- 2 cups Miracle Whip
- 1 cup Buttermilk
- 3 Tsp. Garlic Powder
- 1 Tbsp. Parsley
- 1/2 Tsp. Celery Salt
- 1 Tsp. Chives
- 1 Tsp. Accent
- 1 Tsp. Onion Powder
- 1 Tsp. Oregano

Mix all ingredients together. Serve chilled. Can be served with all vegetables.

Barbara DeVolt donated this recipe to the WBLRA Treasured Recipes Cookbook



- To advertise in the Birch Bark call 588-3338, fees and ads must be submitted before the 15th of each month. Advertising rate is \$15.00 per month for one (2" x 3 1/2") business card ad. One ad per business please.
- Never leave fires to burn unattended and remember to always have a fire extinguisher and/or a water source close by.
- Future Planning is still looking for members interested in joining the committee. Please contact Joe Romine at 989-588-3155 or email him at pm81@toast.net.
- The operational loan will finally be paid off in November of this year.
- If you are moving, please be sure to contact the office with your address changes.

LOCAL NUMBERS FOR REFERENCE

EMERGENCY SERVICES	911
Clare County Animal Control	989-539-3221
Clare County Sheriff	989-539-7166
Clare County Transit	989-539-1473
Clare County Treasurer	989-539-7801
Consumers Energy	1-800-477-5050
Farwell Board of Education	989-588-9917
Farwell Bus Garage	989-588-9111
Farwell Post Office	989-588-2889
Lincoln Township Treasurer	988-588-2574
Mid-Michigan Medical Center	989-802-5000
Mid-Michigan Urgent Care	989-386-9911
Poison Control (National)	1-800-222-2122

The Birch Bark

THE FOLLOWING ARE LETTERS OF INTENT FROM NOMINEES RUNNING FOR THE WBLRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(Letters have been placed in alphabetical order)

MARK E. CONNELLY

My name is Mark Connelly and I am running for a position on the board of directors here at White Birch Recreational Association.

I live here with my wife Tammy at 5692 Elm Run and own several lots as well. I have been a property owner in Clare County for 13 years, although I have only lived in White Birch for one of those years. I am a former US Marine with an honorable discharge.

I have been self employed most of my life owning and running a communications construction company having as many as 34 employees and/or contractors working for me at one time, giving me great insight into fiscal responsibility and accountability as well as dealing with others whether contractors or employees. Since I no longer have the company I feel I have time to give to my community.

I have taken part in the elections committee, donated time and assets to the Seedlings and Saplings Committee and I am also a volunteer snowmobile trail groomer for the State of Michigan grooming the Pere Marquette trail and the White Pine.

I have given much thought to running and believe that my TOTALLY INDEPENDENT decisions could do nothing but help this community grow.

I take no "sides" and have no "axes to grind" with anyone and feel like a true independent. All I want is to live and let live and not be so concerned about WHAT my neighbor is doing, rather HOW my neighbor is doing.

I currently have 5 grandchildren that I think about and what I would like to leave them with when it comes to this place.

My "platform" is very simple:

- 1) Fiscal accountability and responsibility
- 2) Independent thinking
- 3) The good of this community comes before ANYONE or GROUPS personal agendas
- 4) I am not part of any "click" or "group"
- 5) Live and let live way of life
- 6) Back assessment collection
- 7) Ensuring that the rules we have are applied equally, not just when it is convenient
- 8) Addressing the high taxes we pay in this community and seeking a solution as a group

- 9) Getting back to the basics of our charter as a recreational association by keeping things simple, honest and open and done with integrity and respect for each other
- 10) Supporting the different needs of the "campers"

After all, life is too short and we must make all we can out of our short time here.

Thank you for your valuable time and I welcome any and all calls or concerns.

Sincerely,
Mark E. Connelly
HOME 989-588-4975
CELL 314-581-1673

MARVIN FRAYER (Incumbent)

Fellow Members of White Birch Lakes Recreational Association:

I am currently serving a term on your Board of Directors. I am running for re-election this year and would very much like to continue serving our membership.

I have been a member of the Lake George Fire Department and Emergency Medical Team, and I have helped with many activities and projects around White Birch.

I feel this is a wonderful place to live and enjoy giving my time to keep WBLRA the place to be.

It is the responsibility of each board member to listen to the membership and carry forth their wants.

Our association is fortunate to have so many caring members. In the time I have been on the board I have strived to keep us going forward, preserving what we have and meeting the needs of our members. I intend to continue helping in any way I can.

I am always eager to hear from any of you.

Please vote at the annual meeting on July 15, 2006.

Marvin Frayer
Lot 737

The Birch Bark

GREG HERNDEN

My name is Greg Hernden and my wife Linda and I came to find White Birch Lakes in January of 2000. We built our home and moved in during April of 2001.

We came from Bay City where we raised our family of three and I retired as a Captain on the Fire Department in 2003.

In the last five years it was easy to see that the membership of WBLRA is diverse in its interests and we must make it a priority to represent these interests equitably. Working at balancing the budget while still honoring the needs and wants of the members is my goal.

Balancing the budget will be a huge task in this era of rising costs and I feel that a team approach is the only way to tackle this problem. I do not plan to run WBLRA; however I and six other board members will oversee the efforts of a capable manager and a capable staff.

I've been part of the small army of volunteers that donate their time and efforts, and I thank the members for their kind words of support that I received while working on the bus stop and the gatehouse.

My view for the future is to keep the association alive and well for the generations to come. I'm looking forward to receiving your support and if you have any questions or concerns stop in or call.

Sincerely,
Greg Hernden
5072 Lake RD.
Farwell MI 48622
1-989-588-2837

AL ISAAC (Incumbent)

Fellow Members of White Birch Recreational Association,

My name is Al Isaac and I am announcing my intention to run for a position on the White Birch board of directors. I am currently finishing a two- year term on the board.

My family has lived in White Birch for the past nine and a half years. We have three grown children and four wonderful grandchildren. What we have enjoyed most since we have been here are the many wonderful new

friends we have made and the sense of belonging to a community of neighbors that share common interests.

I would like to share a couple of significant changes that have taken place since I have been on the board that I am very proud of.

The board has initiated a practice of quarterly budget reviews with the manager that has allowed us to take a better look at line item spending. This allows the board to more closely monitor spending and make needed adjustments to ensure the smooth operation of our association. It also allows us to better understand where line item adjustments need to be made for future budgets.

The second thing I am proud of is a renewed commitment by the board to focus on the infrastructure (clubhouse, etc.) and the parks to keep WBLRA as an attractive place for people to want to invest in.

What I would desire for the future of this association is this. It is imperative that we return to an air of professionalism and respect as we conduct the business of the association. I believe it is time for the association to recognize that we are stewards of our natural environment and that the board needs to direct our conservation and futures committees to come up with detailed plans for how we are going to manage our flora and fauna (deer population) and sustain the lakes that we all enjoy.

These things are not going to happen on their own. If these issues are important to you, I would sincerely appreciate your support in the upcoming election.

Al Isaac
Lot 514
989-588-2448

BRIAN M. KOZLOWSKI

Dear White Birchers,

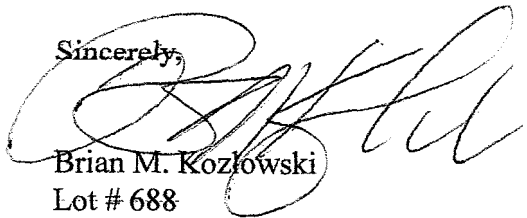
I want to be your representative on the Board of Directors. Let me tell you a little about myself.

I am a native of Michigan, having lived here all of my 60 years, including these past 40 wonderful years with the world's most beautiful wife, mother, friend and lover, Kathleen. God has granted us four happy healthy children. I retired from a career in Law Enforcement after more than 26 years. I began a second career in Industrial Management, from which I am now retired. I have wide experience in personnel management; budget formulation

and control; grant application; labor negotiations; and many other work and life experiences. I am a conservationist and sportsman.

We have owned property in White Birch Lakes since 2001, and have lived here since late 2004. Camping and living here is a true blessing. Kathleen and I have decided to invest the rest of our lives in White Birch Lakes.

To the Board of Directors I will bring a deliberate integrity that will reflect the needs of all of us. I look forward to serving you.

Sincerely,

Brian M. Kozłowski
Lot # 688
1591 Ivy Drive
Farwell, MI 48622

MARVIN L. RICHARDSON

Greetings White Birch Lakes Association Members:

I'd like to take this opportunity to re-introduce myself. More importantly; I'd like to ask for, once again, your support in my efforts to be elected to serve our association and community on the White Birch Lakes Association Board of Directors.

My name is Marv Richardson, my wife Judy, my daughter Megan and I have been residents of White Birch for the past nine years. As many of you know, I served on the Board for four years during the period of 2001 through 2005. I've recently retired from public school administration and am currently employed part-time as the Director of Educational Programs for Education and Training Connection, a not for profit education organization in Midland, Michigan, We provide education opportunities for adults and young adults from the Bullock Creek, Midland School Districts, as well as, the Saginaw area.

In addition to my 18 years of school administrative experience, my leadership and administrative experience includes 10 years as the administrator for the County of Osceola, Emergency Medical Services. Over the years I have served as the chairperson/president, vice president

or member of boards/ committees of several state and regional associations and local communities.

My education background includes a Masters of Arts Degree in Education Leadership from Central Michigan University, a Bachelors of Arts Degree in Education from Central Michigan University, Associates Degree in Advertising from Ferris State University, Paramedic Certification Training from Davenport College/Grand Valley State University, and EMT/Paramedic Instructor Certification Training from Lansing Community College.

During my previous four year tenure on the Board I took the duties and responsibilities seriously. I did then and, if elected, I will continually consider the needs of individual members while supporting and enforcing our Covenants and Restrictions and the By-Laws. I believe that during that four year period our accomplishments were numerous and our Association's fiscal stability was unprecedented. We met the financial needs then while building for the Association's future.

Whether a homeowner or a camper, we all should have an enormous interest in the future of White Birch Lakes and the White Birch Lakes Recreational Association. If elected I will serve both without hidden or personal agendas and execute my role as a Board member with an open mind and set realistic goals for the future of our Association, White Birch Lakes Campers and homeowners alike.

Thank you for your consideration and support!
Best Wishes to All!

Marvin L. Richardson
Lot #550-551

MARTY PERKINS (Incumbent)

Hello Members of WBLRA,

I would like to announce my running for The Board of Directors.

It has been an honor to serve this community for the last two years as a Director, and as President.

I would hope to continue on with the Open Door Policy this board has set in place. To follow the By-Laws which govern our community to the best of our ability.

We have made big strides in bringing back our parks and commons. To restore WBLRA to a place where we can't wait to return to in the summer, and be proud to say we live in White Birch Lakes Recreation Association.

The communication we have brought to you with the newsletter, and the website I am very proud of. A lot of time and volunteering Members' hard work was able to put this together, so we might be able to better inform the Members of WBLRA.

I have also been very involved with the Conservation Committee with the speaker series, and the reform of our parks and beaches. I am very proud of our Members who volunteer to help bring this all together.

I think leadership is a quality a board member needs. I believe I have this ability. I also think that a board member needs to be honest. To stand on what he/she believes in. But to also have an open mind. I have gone around and listened to what folks have said, what their opinion would be to better serve WBL. I have tried to bring their concerns to you.

I have always tried to cut spending, to be fiscally sound with our budget. I believe it is the Board's responsibility to maintain our commons and our parks. Too long we have just let our amenities go to waste. I would like to see tennis courts repaired, parks cleaned, parks made into places for our kids to be able to go to and have fun while being safe. Recreation brought back to our community, for which this community was formed.

So I ask for your Vote.
Vote for me Marty Perkins

MIKE TURNER

Hello neighbors! I would like to take a few moments of your time to introduce myself, if we haven't already met.

I am Mike Turner, husband of Theresa, father of Trent and Zeon, a member of WBLRA since 2000 and a homeowner for the last 4 years.

You may have heard of me through the Conservation Committee or because you've stopped to talk to me about the wildflowers in front of our home by the Campground on Mockingbird Circle. Or maybe you've met me out fishing on one of the lakes.

Some of you may know me through my job as a Conservation Planner at the Gladwin Soil Conservation District, where I assist landowners with planning, funding and installing Conservation Practices. Or some of you may know me as a former Server at the Sweet Onion for nearly 10 years. Some of you may have simply read the articles I have written for the Birch Bark or the local

newspapers.

I have previously held many elected positions: FFA Region 4 Treasurer, State FFA Treasurer, Michigan Junior Brown Swiss Association President and 4-H Club President. I also currently serve on many Committees within the Communities I serve, including: the Martuch Chapter of Trout Unlimited Projects Committee, the City of Gladwin Wellhead Protection Committee and currently Chair the CREP Technical Action Committee for Clare, Gladwin & Osceola Counties as well as the Cedar River Watershed Committee for Clare, Gladwin and Roscommon Counties.

In the last year I have been Chairperson of the WBLRA Conservation Committee.

This involved:

- The improvements to Timber Lake Beach Club
- Placing the Bluebird and Wood-duck nesting boxes on WBL Commons
- The "Conservation Speaker Series".

I also assisted with installing the flower beds at the White Birch Entrance.

As a Member of the WBLRA Board - I feel fiscal responsibility is a paramount issue. The Board needs to seek out, find and implement ways to improve services and amenities to members while reducing costs and NOT RAISING ASSESSMENTS!

I look forward, with your assistance, to finding ways of improving services and amenities to members while keeping costs down. Many members have ideas and experience in doing so; I look forward to discussing these issues with you.

Your vote would truly be appreciated.
Mike Turner
Lots: 86, 87 & 88



Brenda's
HAIR & TANNING STUDIO

105 East Third St.
Clare, Michigan
989-386-3333

Men & Women

WIGS - HAIRPIECES
COLOR - PERMS
NAILS - PEDICURES



KEY WEST
Boutique

UNIQUE CLOTHING
BEACH WEAR
LINGERIE

Mon.-Fri. 9am-7pm
Sat. & Sun.- 9am-3pm

OWNER IS RESIDENT

Application for Absentee Ballot for 2006 White Birch Lakes Recreational Association Elections

White Birch Lakes Recreational Association (WBLRA) By-Laws provide that members may vote by absentee ballot by requesting a ballot in writing or by personally requesting an absentee ballot at the WBLRA office. The association is also required to provide an application for absentee ballot to all members by first class mail by April 1 of each year.

If you choose to vote by absentee ballot in the 2006 WBLRA elections, you must complete this application and return it to the office. **There will be no ballot in the Birch Bark as in previous years.**

Absentee ballots will be sent out after June 1. To receive an absentee ballot, this application must be RECEIVED in the office before **Wednesday, July 5, 2006.**

Name _____
Last First

Address _____

Lot Number(s) _____
(Note that you may only vote for lots upon which you pay an assessment—not contiguous status lots.)

Member's signature: (By signing this application, the undersigned certifies that they are an owner of the listed lot(s), that they are a member in good standing, that they intend to submit an absentee ballot for the lot(s) listed, and that they will not permit a non-member, or member not in good standing to vote using the absentee ballot(s) they will be issued.)

Member's Signature

Return this completed application to WBLRA, Attn: Carrie Forfinski--Elections, 4730 Lake Dr., Farwell, MI 48622.

If you do not receive a ballot, please contact Ken Passage, 1st Vice President WBLRA at (989) 588-2483.

Office Use Only

Membership Status Verified: _____ Ballot Number(s) Issued _____
(initials)

Not Verified: _____
(initials)

The Birch Bark

White Birch Lakes Recreational Association
4730 Lake Road, Farwell, Michigan 48622

White Birch Lakes Recreational Association
does not endorse and is not responsible for products and/or services advertised in the newsletter.



ALMOST DONE!

We are happy to inform the members of WBLRA that the Timber Lake Project is very near completion.

The new porta-john has been installed (and one at Holiday Lake as well which was included in the project budget). The new buoys, sand, bike rack and grills are placed and trash can lids have been installed for critter control. Once the weather decides to cooperate, a fresh coat of paint will be added to the picnic tables by volunteers.

The project is currently \$1,198.76 under the allocated budget of \$4,500.00 due to the Conservation Committee's diligence in pursuing competitive quotes on all materials, the generosity of WBLRA volunteers in providing labor, fuel and equipment and the utilization of salaried association maintenance personnel when necessary.

Thanks again to all those that supported and assisted with this project.

NOMINEE LETTERS INSIDE THIS EDITION

Please take time to review the enclosed "Letters of Intent" from those running for election to your White Birch Lakes Recreational Association Board of Directors.

Fathers Day Breakfast

WBLRA with the help of the local Red Hat Society will be hosting the annual Fathers Day Breakfast at the clubhouse.

Sunday, June 18, 2006, 8:00 am to 11:00 am

APPLICATION FOR ABSENTEE BALLOT INSIDE THIS EDITION SEE PAGE #11

All committee articles for the "Birch Bark" are due no later than the 5:00 pm, Friday following the monthly board meeting. Committee articles can be emailed to: kpassage@hotmail.com or tmobrecht@ejourney.com