

St. Ignace Recreation Programs Introduce Beginners to Skating, Hockey

Children who want to learn how to skate or play hockey are welcome to join three instructional programs at Little Bear East Ice Arena.

Introduction to Hockey and Learn To Skate programs, both run

by the St. Ignace City Recreation Department, will be offered Monday, December 26, to Thursday, December 29. Both programs are for youth ages five and older. Cost is \$5 per participant.

Introduction to Hockey will

meet from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. each day. Participants need skates, a helmet, and a hockey stick.

Learn to Skate will be from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. each day. Participants should be equipped with skates and helmets.

St. Ignace Hockey Association is in the midst of its hockey initiation program, which is a requirement for all youths to be registered with USA Hockey-organized programs.

The initiation program, which

teaches the basic skills of hockey, began in early November and runs through mid-February, however, said Tim Matelski, the program's instructor, new members at any age are welcome to join at any time.

One-hour programs are held Mondays and Wednesdays, starting at 6 p.m. at Little Bear East Arena. Participants must have full hockey equipment.

Cost of the initiation program is \$125 per person.



Little Bear To Host Midget Hockey Tourney

The 5th annual Midget Hockey Holiday Classic Tournament in St. Ignace will be Friday, December 30, to Sunday, January 1, featuring eight regional teams.

The tournament, held at Little Bear East Arena, includes teams from Alpena, Gaylord, the Boyne area, Newberry, and two teams each from Mackinaw City and Sault Ste. Marie.

Owing to a lack of membership, St. Ignace does not have a midget

team this year, however, a few St. Ignace players will be on the ice for the Mackinaw City and Sault Ste. Marie teams. The Mackinaw City teams are composed of players from as far south as Petoskey and as far north as Kinross.

"We're like one big melting pot," said Greg Vieau of the Mackinaw City Hockey Association. "We're happy to have taken in the kids from St. Ignace and we're looking at this tournament as if we are playing on

home ice."

This year's tournament will be hard-pressed to top last year's tournament excitement, when Newberry topped St. Ignace in overtime, 3-2, to win the tournament's championship.

Games will take place Friday from noon until 9 p.m., and Saturday from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. until 7 p.m. The semifinals will take place Sunday at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m., and the championship game will be at 5 p.m.

It's Hot Stove League Time for Deer Hunters

With the deer seasons out of the way now, it is time for the hot-stove league to go into session. Whether it was good or bad usually depends upon who managed to fill their deer license and who didn't.

Sure to come up is always the hunter who bagged a "record buck" but didn't get around to having it officially measured and registered. What is the biggest whitetail buck ever taken in Michigan, or another state?

Well, some years ago, an Ontario hunter stalking farmland near his home turned loose an arrow at a whopper whitetail. John Annett, who had taken several big bucks in earlier seasons, was astonished when he found what he had downed. Unfortunately, he didn't take it to a provincial wildlife office until the next day. Even then, it was scaled at an amazing 432.2 pounds. Had it been weighed earlier, the 10-pointer would have undoubtedly been heavier.

The late Ben East once interviewed a Maine hunter who claimed he shot a buck weighing 700

pounds. Main biologists disputed it, saying, "The heaviest weight for a whitetail deer that we recorded and recognize is 351 pounds dressed."

In 1926, a Minnesota buck was supposed to have weighed 402 pounds dressed. Intact, it would have weighed more than Annett's big buck. Wildlife officials in that state consider that record authentic.

Michigan's heaviest buck on record was one killed near Trout Creek in Ontonagon County in 1919. That one weighed 354 pounds, dressed, or well over 400 pounds live weight. Another huge 8-pointer was killed more recently in a car-deer crash near Manchester in Washtenaw County.

It scaled at 317 pounds, field-dressed with hind feet removed. A wildlife biologist estimated its age at 4.5 years.

Few of us will ever see, much less shoot, a record whitetail buck. We will have to be content with our own dream of just getting a good one. And if we do, who wouldn't pardon us if we want to take a few



photos of it later for bragging purposes? Right there is where a lot of hunters go wrong: they take terrible pictures!



Getting good photographs is just a matter of taking a little time to do it right. That means putting the trophy into some natural area similar to where it was shot. If the deer has been dressed out, turn the belly cavity away from the camera. If you are to be in the picture, too, get behind the buck and hold his head up so the rack shows.

A deer in the back of a pickup truck looks awful.

For goodness sake, don't let the deer's tongue hang out. It will look like you ran the animal to death and it was panting. Be respectful of this wonderful animal.

Restaurant To Serve Lunch to Long Term Care Residents and Employees

Residents and employees at Mackinac Straits Hospital Long Term Care in St. Ignace will be treated to a free taco bar and buffet at noon Monday, January 2, courtesy of Firehouse Grill restaurant and Pines Trading Post.

The free meal, said Firehouse Grill owner Dan Malfroid, is to give back to those who have given to the community during their lives.



New Years Eve

Rib Buffet 5-9 p.m.

...Only \$8.99

Slow-cooked ribs, shrimp, pressure fried chicken, baked beans, seasoned rice, REAL mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, biscuits, sweet potatoes.

Includes all-you-can-eat 40 item soup and salad bar

St. Ignace Big Boy
913 US 2, St. Ignace
906-643-1555
Open 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Daily



St. Ignace League Bowling Results

Bluewater League
News Crew 81, Quentin's Barbershop 59, Belonga & Sons 59, McFarlane's Country Corner 52, Gerry's Beauty Shop 49, U.P. State Credit Union 46, Subway 41, Big Boy Restaurant 39.

HTG: Shannon Goudreau 201; HTS: Jennifer Meyer 496.

200s: Shannon Goudreau 201, Beverly Meyers 200.

Splits: Sunshine Closs 5-6, Sheri Edwards 5-7, Liz Pomarius 3-10, Margie Denoyer 4-5.

National League
Driftwood 85, Star Line 71, L&L Fishery 65, Mackinac Grille 51, Mackinac Sales 46, Rock Bottom Tavern 46, Miller Lite 45, Huskey Construction 39.

HTG/s: Driftwood 786/2298; HIG/s: Earl Harmon 250/626.

500s: Dale Beaudoin 551, Dick Webber 547, Chris Barker 503, Travis Peterson 561, Ron Colegrove 527, Darrin Meyer 579, Ralph Colegrove 592, Jerry Smock 530, Brian Thomas 551, Don Massey 591, Quentin Goudreau 508, Tom Colegrove 543, Tom Krause 597.

600s: Earl Harmon 626.

Splits: Dick Webber 5-6, Jeremy Werkhiser, Dan Halberg, Ron Colegrove 3-10, Dale Beaudoin 3-10, 2-7-8, Billy Rickley 2-7, Travis Peterson 3-6-7-10.

Enjoy the trails this winter...

We rent

ALL NEW Arctic Cat Snowmobiles

Call for pricing!



RENTAL EXPRESS

1430 S. Straits Hwy., Indian River • 231-238-9696
Monday - Friday 8-5 • Saturday 8-4
Conveniently located 20 miles south of Mackinac Bridge. Exit 313 I-75

"If it's plumbing or heating - we do it!"

Mackinac Plumbing & Heating

24-Hour Service

- Residential
- Commercial
- Industrial

CALL 643-8549

99 Bertrand St. Ignace

- NEW • OLD • REPAIRS
- SEWER CLEANING


Senior Discount

Licensed Master Plumbers
State License #6445

Ken Brown
643-8482

Three programs this month are designed to introduce children to ice skating and hockey. The St. Ignace Recreation Department is offering skating lessons and introductory hockey program, while the St. Ignace Hockey Association's initiation program involves registering children for USA hockey. Pictured at the initiation program are (from left) Alex France, Cameron Fuldenci, Keegan Fuldenci, instructor Tim Matelski, Tyler Allen, and Riley Allen.

Ringing in Affordable Lease Rates!




2006 Dodge Ram SLT 1500 4 Door 4x4

\$33,330 MSRP
27 Month Lease
\$249 + Tax/month
\$2,450 due at signing

Must qualify for Lease Loyalty rebate

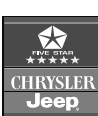
2006 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT

Rear Heat, Sto and Go Seating, Loaded




\$27,830 MSRP
\$199 + Tax/month
\$2,386 due at signing

Must qualify for Lease Loyalty rebate



O'CONNOR'S



THE EASTERN UPPER PENINSULA'S ONLY 5 STAR DEALER
STOP BY AND SEE ONE OF THESE QUALITY PRE-OWNED VEHICLES TODAY
Stop In Or Call Us! M-129 1 1/2 MILES NORTH OF PICKFORD, MI • 1-800-800-7192 • (906) 647-5575 OR 647-921
For a complete list of New & Preowned Vehicles, Visit Our Website at: www.oconnormotors.com