

Engadine

By Julie Freeman

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The community sends condolences to the family of Steve Lesatz, who passed away Tuesday, December 20, leaving his wife, Susan, their children, parents, family, and friends. He was a wonderful man who will be deeply missed. Please keep the family in your prayers.

The Tahquamenon Country Dog Sled Race is planned for Saturday, January 7. Bring the whole family to the Rainbow Lodge on County Road 423 at the mouth of the Two Hearted River, where the races will begin at 9 a.m. Up and coming mushers, six, 10, and 12-dog pro races, sportsman race, and celebrity race are planned. For up-to-date information, visit the Internet site www.tcsdrinc.arcticwind.net/

You don't want to miss the Portage Anglers Ice Fishing Derby, Saturday, January 21, in Curtis on the Big and South Manistique Lakes. There will be children's and adults' prizes for all categories. For

more information, call (906) 586-3454.

Happy birthday to Donald Ault and Jolene Mantei December 27, Alex Kenwabikise December 28, Katie Biang, Melissa Weber, Richard Ozanich, Alice Schroeder, Amy Jo Zdebski, and Tim Mast Sr. December 29, Joann Trier and Shane King December 30, Tracie Abram, Dani Rutledge, and James Everhart December 31, Leighton Miller January 4, Arianna Price, Tom Hoogterp, Todd Feneley, and Rodney Bigelow January 5, Brent Vallier January 6, to my wonderful niece, Dawn Matchinske, January 7, and Ilene Carlson, Addison Whitney, and Chad Germain January 8.

Happy anniversary to Steve and Trinda Lane January 1 and Rob and Melanie Chaffin January 2.

Traditionally, it was thought that you could affect the luck you would have throughout the coming year by what you did or ate on the first day

of the year. For that reason, it has become common for some folks to celebrate the first few minutes of a brand new year in the company of family and friends. Parties often last into the middle of the night after the ringing in of a new year. It was once believed that the first visitor on New Year's Day would bring either good luck or bad luck the rest of the year. It was particularly lucky if that visitor happened to be a tall, dark-haired man.

Traditional New Year foods are also thought to bring luck. Some cultures believe that anything in the shape of a ring is good luck, because it symbolizes "coming full circle," completing a year's cycle. For that reason, the Dutch believe that eating donuts on New Year's Day will bring good fortune.

If you plan to celebrate, please be careful and responsible. Don't drink and drive.

Happy New Year, everyone! Until next time, take care.

By Marilyn McNeil

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snowmobiles from Santa for Christmas, please take it easy when you're riding. Please take it easy and have fun.

The activities are winding down for awhile, until the weather starts to get better and warmer. It won't be too long, we only have January and February to get through, then it will start to warm up. It really will, won't it?

Our son sent a cartoon, which he found in his local newspaper in Florida the other day. When the hurricanes were blowing through Florida, I kept telling him, "Why don't you move, get back up here where we do not have hurricanes." I said, "I do not particularly like the snow, but at least it doesn't blow my house up in the air and toss it around, or pick me up and send me through the air. I'll take the snow

over hurricanes any day." Well, the other day he sent this cartoon that showed two people walking shoulder deep in snow. Behind them their car was buried deep in the snow and one of them was saying, "Well, at least it's better than hurricanes." I have it on the refrigerator to remind me of how much better snow is.

I have no new birthdays or anniversaries on my calendar to end the year, so I'll just say congratulations to anyone whom I may have missed last year. It has been a great year, and a long one in some ways. But we're still here and reasonably healthy to start the new year. We hope you all have a happy and blessed holiday and wish you all good health and happiness in the New Year.

Stay safe and stay well. See you next week.

By Helen Shoberg

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take them down to his boat at the shoreline, and then peddle them, mostly at the Les Cheneaux Club. On one of these occasions, he was charging too much and never sold a thing. He was so upset that he went back to his landing and threw it all into the bullrushes.

"My father, Bruce W. Patrick, happened to come along and saw all of those vegetables and strawberries in the water, so he thought something might have happened. Maybe John Liberty had fallen into the bay, thus losing it all, so we immediately went up to his

farm to see if he was okay. We found him, and he was okay, but what happened to the produce? He told us how no one would give him his price, so he just threw it all into the water. "That will fix them!" he said."

John Liberty was one of the many "characters" in the Les Cheneaux area about which so many stories have been circulated. Next week we'll find out the probable cause of John's eccentric behavior. (The above reminds me of the old time "Uncle Wiggley" stories that I used to read in the newspaper as a child. They always ended with "and next week, we'll learn about how Uncle Wiggley got out of" some kind of mischief.)

On that note, we wish everyone a safe and happy New Year and all good things for the year 2006.

Gould City

Ho! Ho! Ho! We're still full of Christmas cheer. Usually, I pretty well know what Santa is up to, but this year the Santas did all the shopping on their own without asking. They just knew what I needed and wanted. That Santa is a pretty smart fellow.

There is a spaghetti dinner Wednesday, December 28, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the St. Francis de Sales School in Manistique for Bob and Jean White. They lost their home and belongings in a fire Monday, December 12. They really need your help in any way you can. The dinner is by donation, so whatever you can do to help will be appreciated. A bake sale was held Wednesday, December 21, at the Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital for the Whites.

All of you who received new

Les Cheneaux

December 21 has passed and the days are beginning their trek toward more daylight. A month makes quite a difference.

The lucky winner of the Lions Club drawing December 20 was Pat Nye, who won the big one of \$500. What a nice Christmas present for Pat.

A continuation of the John Liberty story from Bruce Patrick follows:

"John Liberty raised vegetables for a living, growing mostly strawberries. He would pick a bunch of veggies and strawberries,

Fitness Class Offered in Cedarville

A "cardio-pilates-step-weights" fitness class will be offered in Cedarville Mondays and Wednesdays this winter, beginning January 9, 2006, and ending February 1.

Fitness trainers Pennie Clymer and Sally Brumleve will lead the course on alternating days: Mrs. Brumleve on Mondays and Mrs. Clymer on Wednesdays.

The class will be taught in the Commons Room at Les Cheneaux Community Schools in Cedarville from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The program will combine an energizing, low-impact cardiovascular workout with light weight-lifting, using a six-inch to 12-inch step. The combination of exercises is designed to encourage fat burning, while strengthening the heart and toning the upper and lower body. There will be also be a session on Pilates, a form of exercise that incorporates yoga moves, with concentration on strengthening core muscles in the abdomen and back. The session ends with stretching and relaxation. Wednesday's session will focus primarily on weights and stretching.

Participants should wear loose, comfortable work-out clothing, and bring to class water, a small towel, light to medium weights (four-pound to 10-pound weights recommended), and aerobic shoes. Participants are advised against wearing their shoes to class, and should plan on changing into them at the Commons Room.

Participants can bring their own work-out pads, or pads will be provided at the class. The steps will also be provided.

The class will cost \$32, and checks or payments can be made to Consolidated Community Schools

Nominations Sought for Barn of the Year



This Cedarville barn on Swede Road, estimated to be about 100 years old, is one of more than 700 barns in Mackinac and Chippewa counties. The Michigan Barn Preservation Network is seeking nominations for the state's favorite barns.

The Michigan Barn Preservation Network is seeking nominations for Michigan's 2006 Barn of the Year. Any barn in Michigan can be nominated, and the Eastern Upper Peninsula is home to approximately 800 functioning or abandoned barns. More than 700 of those barns are in Chippewa and East Mackinac counties, and several of those are still on working farms. In 1925, an agricultural census listed 1,730 barns in the

area. The Barn Preservation Network hopes that raising awareness of the historic significance of barns will prompt people to preserve them. The non-profit, state organization gives an annual award for the best adaptive commercial use of a barn, and another for continuing agricultural or adaptive family use. Barns may either be in their original settings or moved to new locations. **Please turn to page 21*

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HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY 8 A.M. TO 5 P.M.

We will be closing at Noon December 30th

HATS OFF

WISHING YOU THE BEST FOR 2006!

Let's start off on a great note together, and celebrate the good times ahead. Your friendship and patronage has always meant so much to us. We hope to continue to be of service to you in the coming year!

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HAPPY
NEW YEAR

May this New Year hold the many promises of peace, harmony and love for all mankind...today and all through the year.

The St. Ignace News Staff

Rick Caldwell, Sherry Cece, Wendy Colegrove, Kerri Fountain, Paul Gingras, Karen Gould, Dawn Huskey, Dave Latva, Mary Maurer, Wesley Maurer Jr., Jeff Metz, Joe Mielke, Eileen Nye, Ellen Paquin, Amy Polk, Ryan Schlehner, Debbie Sterk, Marty Wolski, Lisa Zyble, and office mascots Paige and Oreo

and our correspondents...Barbara Buschbacher, Jeannette Doud, Julie Freeman, Linda Livermore, Marilyn McNeil, Lois Movalson, and Helen Shoberg.