

Response Teams Ready for Snowmobile Season With New Sign System

**Continued from page 1*

who had been hurt on Mackinac County's 300 miles of designated snowmobile trails.

Snowmobilers who get hurt, or who are helping a member of a riding party who has been hurt, can simply call 9-1-1 and give a sign code number. The dispatchers and county police have digital maps that correspond to the signs which enables coordinators to direct responders to the closest entry point to the trail where an accident occurs.

Responders have bound, laminated copies and police even have computer software that includes topographical maps.

The system is designed so that all rescue agencies have copies of the same information.

Forty map books should be in the hands of all primary response services by January 1.

In the past, emergency responders had to contend with calls in which people said things like, "I've been in an accident. I'm on Trail Two!" They seldom remembered significant landmarks that would help responders find the quickest route to them, however, and Trail Two runs from St. Ignace to Wisconsin, Mr. Strait explained.

"Its like saying, 'I've been in an accident, and I'm on US-2,'" he added.

Even if a victim tells police he left St. Ignace one hour ago, without knowing how fast he was traveling, police had little idea how far down the trail he was. They would find themselves wasting valuable time searching large portions of



Standing at the Cheeseman Road and Railroad Grade snowmobile trail in St. Ignace, (from left) Mackinac County Undersheriff Darrell Sadler, Mackinac County 9-1-1 Coordinator Bryce Tracy, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Police Chief Fred Paquin, Mackinac County Sheriff Scott Strait, and Les Cheneaux Boy Scout Peter Duman represent the multiple-agency effort to install signs along the county's snowmobile trails to help locate trail users in an emergency. Mr. Duman, a Cedarville resident, installed 30 signs in Clark Township as part of his Eagle Scout project, and laminated and bound 40 map books for the county. The group is standing on eastbound Snowmobile Trail Two, which runs all the way to Curtis.

trails.

Searching within a one kilometer grid improves this scenario, Mr. Tracy said.

A team of four responders and a rescue sled usually respond to trail emergencies. The sled has skis and wheels and has room for an injured person, medical technicians, and medical gear, Mr. Tracy said. Each area has its own emergency responders, generally a combination of EMS workers and firemen.

Sheriff Strait emphasized that the trail markers will only be posted on official snowmobile

trails, designated on maps available from local snowmobile clubs.

The trail marking project was funded by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. It was developed through a year and a half of collaborative work between Mr. Tracy, Chippewa County Office of Emergency Services Director Tim McKee, Chuck McCready of No Boundaries Maps

and Graphics, Inc., based in Sault Ste. Marie, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, local snowmobile clubs, and Boy Scouts from Troop 140 in Cedarville, who helped bind the map books and install signs. One scout, Peter Duman of Cedarville, did extensive work on the project and used it to earn Eagle Scout status.



If a snowmobile trail user has an emergency, he or she should find the closest one of these signs to tell emergency services dispatchers his location along the trail. Trail signs are not mile markers, but correspond with a military grid system that pinpoints the location on a digital map.

BENTLEY'S

B-n-L CAFE

Downtown St. Ignace

OPEN Mon.-Sat. at 7 a.m.
Closed on Sundays

Hand Dipped Ice Cream
Malts & Shakes

Call for take-out orders
643-7910

Gift Certificates Available

Holiday Pies To Order

THURS., DEC. 21	1/2 Baked Chicken, mashed potatoes and vegetable	\$5 ⁹⁵
FRI., DEC. 22	Prime Rib, choice of potato	\$7 ⁹⁵
MON., DEC. 25	CLOSED - MERRY CHRISTMAS	
TUES., DEC. 26	Swiss Steak, mashed potatoes and vegetable	\$5 ⁹⁵
WED., DEC. 27	Beef Stew over Biscuits	\$5 ⁹⁵

Santa's On His Merry Way...

Bringing Gifts Without Delay. And We'd Just Like To Stop And Say, We Wish You One Great Christmas Day!

We appreciate your ever-loyal support and patronage. Joyous Noel to you and yours.

Cedar Pantry

M-134, Cedarville (906) 484-2275

MARQUETTE GENERAL HEALTH SYSTEM and CHIPPEWA MEDICAL ASSOCIATES

welcome

MOHAMMED HAIDER, MD

Nephrology and Internal Medicine

Dr. Mohammed Haider has joined the medical staff of Marquette General Hospital and Chippewa Medical Associates. Dr. Haider will provide full-time nephrology and internal medicine care at Chippewa Medical in Sault Ste. Marie. He has also joined the medical staff of War Memorial Hospital where he will provide patient care as needed.

Dr. Haider specializes in providing diagnosis and treatment of problems relating to kidney function abnormalities, including chronic renal failure, acute renal failure, hypertension, and various metabolic disturbances.

Board certified in nephrology and internal medicine, Dr. Haider completed nephrology fellowships at Metropolitan Hospital Center, New York, New York, and at Our Lady of Mercy Medical Center, Bronx, New York, where he also completed his internal medicine residency and internship. Dr. Haider earned his medical degree at the University of Chittagong, Bangladesh and Sylhet (Asmari) Medical College, Sylet Bangladesh.

For information or to schedule an appointment with Dr. Haider, please call Chippewa Medical Associates at (906) 632-6013 or (877) 823-6196.

CHIPPEWA MEDICAL ASSOCIATES

www.mgh.org

CHEESEMAN'S INSURANCE CORNER

We would like to say "Thank You" for allowing us to serve your insurance needs as your local independent insurance agency.

HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ARMED SERVICES THROUGHOUT THE HOLIDAY SEASON.

Gregory R. Cheeseman * Gregory S. Cheeseman
Jeni Therrian * Candy Boston

Merry Christmas

and

Best Wishes for a Happy New Year

ERICKSON APPLIANCE & FURNITURE

SAULT STE. MARIE, MI

Holiday Wishes

All the Best this Christmas and Good Wishes for the New Year!

CEDARVILLE MARINE

Cedarville
906-484-2815

Warmest Greetings of the Season

It warms our heart to think of you in this most wonderful of seasons, because there's just so much to celebrate, and your friendship is one of the reasons!

Merry, Merry Christmas!

Belongga

PLUMBING & HEATING

115 ELLIOTT, ST. IGNACE
(906) 643-9595

It's the Season to be Thankful!

The Community Health Access Coalition (CHAC) would like to take this opportunity to thank Mackinac Straits Hospital, Mackinac Straits Naubinway Clinic and the volunteer health care providers, staff and partners for all of their kindness and support. It is through their generosity we are one step closer to a healthier community.

Dr. Christopher Gunnell
Cynthia Butcher, CFNP
Dr. Carl Hawkins
Dr. Alice Lindsey
Dr. Jesus Neri
Carol Norman, CNP
Dr. John Stephenson
Dr. Donald Weersing

We would also like to send a special thank you to: Jason Anderson, Laura Anderson, Barb Davis, Tammie Hartwig, Rod Nelson, Marilee Barthelemy and the Mackinac Straits Hospital Board of Directors who are all instrumental in starting and maintaining the program in Mackinac County

Together we can get our community covered!

www.upchac.org