

# 75 People Enjoy 'Great Start' Sleigh Ride at Pickford's Northwoods Christian Camp

Seventy-five people were carried across the snowy landscape on century-old wooden sleighs Saturday, January 5, in Northwoods Christian Camp's final sleigh ride of the season.

Offered in cooperation with the Eastern Upper Peninsula Great Start Collaborative early childhood program, the special ride brought visitors from as far as Negaunee to enjoy the snow before snowdrifts began to rapidly melt.

The event provided Great Start staff the opportunity to raise awareness of the program to improve educational and social conditions for Eastern Upper Peninsula children. Great Start workers have been interviewing local adults to see how the area's many social and educational resources can be coordinated to serve the needs of children up to age five. A report and recommendations are expected in January or February.

Fortunately for the participants, the Northwoods landscape remained blanketed under a heavy cover of snow throughout the day, allowing drivers Randy Hall and Duane Bawks to use old-fashioned wooden sleighs instead wagons to draw people over the hills. Hay wagons have been used in the past



Thickly dressed in furry hats, hoods, and boots, passengers on Randy Hall's sled (front, from left) Jennie and Nico Lukkarinen of Negaunee, Samantha and Carrie Hale of Sault Ste. Marie, Nico Lukkarinen's grandmother, Hilda Lewis of Negaunee, and (back) Allie and Cass Gillhooley of Sault Ste. Marie are ready for any cold weather Saturday, January 5. Fortunately, the weather was mild, but not warm enough to melt the snow at Northwoods Christian Camp in Pickford.

when the snow is not adequate to draw a sleigh.

The drivers and Northwoods Manager Norm Eddy estimate Northwoods has hosted winter sleigh or wagon rides for at least 15 years. Typically offered at night, the rides start in late November and continue through the New Year's holiday. Nighttime rides give participants a chance to see the lighted grounds and

Nativity scene set up for Christmas.

Jingling bells on the horses added to the festive atmosphere, as did a Christmas tree and lights still decorating the Northwoods hall.

Dave Bawks and Bob Slater of Pickford assisted Mr. Eddy and the drivers with the event, serving refreshments to participants, most of whom were children.



Northwoods Christian Camp Manager Norm Eddy (left) talks with team driver Randy Hall of Sault Ste. Marie, before he embarks with horses Bob (left) and Pete.

## Pickford Area To Host Walleye Jamboree

If weather continues to cooperate, there should be plenty of ice for the annual Walleye Jamboree on Munuscong Bay January 24 through January 27. Organizer Carley Ball said Monday, January 14, that ice is good in the bay, but people should still avoid ice near land, especially around islands and points.

The mild weather, a period of thawing, and rain over the past month have caused unstable ice conditions in some areas, and people should avoid driving on the ice with automobiles. They should also avoid the east side of the bay closest to the St. Marys River, she said.

"As of right now," Mrs. Ball

said, "we won't be able to fish in the [shipping] channel or over deep water."

The Pickford community will again host the contest, which take place about seven miles northeast of town.

This year's grand prize is \$600 for the adult who catches the largest walleye. The biggest walleye in a separate youth contest could win \$50 for the lucky angler.

Other prizes include an eight-foot by eight-foot storage shed for second prize, and cash prizes for the largest fish in third through 10th places. The contest will also award prizes for the largest fish caught each day, to the person who weighs the most walleyes, and to

people entered in the drawing. The Bounty on the Bay contest will award another \$100 if the largest walleye caught is larger than last year's 9.8-pound fish.

The weigh-in station on the shores of the Munuscong will be available Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

Register for the contest at Wilderness Treasures and Dan's Cabins in Pickford, MMC Store in Barbeau, Petersen's Country Store in Raber, and Hank's Sport Shop in Sault Ste. Marie. The entry fee is \$10 per adult and \$5 per child.

Wilderness Treasures in Pickford serves as the unofficial headquarters for the contest, and more information can be obtained there by stopping in or calling Carley or Tom Ball at (906) 647-4002. The Soo Area Sportsmen's Club will sponsor the event, with the help of nearly 20 Pickford, Cedarville, and Sault Ste. Marie area businesses that donate prizes and cash.

A Second Chance Walleye fishing contest is being planned for the third weekend in February.



Duane Bawks of Pickford tows a group of St. Ignace children and adults (front, from left) Luke Valletta, Whitney Matson, Olivia Wyers; (back) Melissa Matson, Tyrel Matson, Matthew Valletta, and Tonya Valletta, on a sleigh ride January 5 at Northwoods Christian Camp in Pickford.

## St. Ignace Restaurants Offer Pizza Samples January 31

People can sample pizzas from St. Ignace restaurants Thursday, January 31, from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the LaSalle High School cafeteria, before the boys high school basketball game between St. Ignace and Newberry. Samples will be available from BC Pizza, Driftwood Sports Bar, Mackinac Grille, Pines Trading Post, Pizza Guys, Rock Bottom Tavern, Timmy Lee's Pub, and

the Village Inn. The meal is sponsored by the St. Ignace Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors.

Tickets can be purchased ahead of time for \$5 for adults and \$3 for children, or at the door for \$6 for adults and \$3 for children. There is no charge for children younger than five. Tickets are available at participating restaurants and the Chamber of Commerce.

## Christian Schools, Homeschool Parents In-service To Be Jan. 21

An educator's workshop for Christian school teachers and homeschool parents called Winter Warm-up is planned Monday, January 21, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Fundamental Baptist Church in Kinross. The program is sponsored by the Michigan Association of Christian Schools.

The in-service will include a

pictorial history of Washington, D.C., the philosophy of Christian education, and principles for good teachers. Guest speakers will be Tim Schmig, executive director of the association, and Dr. Dave Hansen, pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church in Roscommon.

A luncheon will be provided.

## DeTour School Offers Dance Class

Dance classes will be offered at DeTour Area Schools beginning Tuesday, January 22. Sherry Bailey will teach jazz, tap, and ballet to students ages four to 13. Classes will be offered Tuesdays throughout the school year, and the students will be performing at many

local civic events in DeTour and Drummond throughout the year.

The cost for classes will be \$35 per month. The class is sponsored by Consolidated Community Schools Services.

Call DeTour Area Schools for information at (906) 297-2011.

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