



Alicia Garen of St. Ignace, pictured with Make a Wish volunteer Pat Michiela of Grand Rapids, was awarded a spring trip to Disney World in Florida for her eighth birthday by Make a Wish Foundation. She was nominated by doctors while recovering from a bone marrow transplant. (Photograph by Nicole Garen)

Jack Soderquist is a patient at Munson Medical Center in Traverse City, where he has undergone leg surgery after suffering a fall.

Richard and Kay Stascak of Green Bay, Wisconsin, along with Terry and Sharon Smith of St. Ignace, traveled to Owosso Saturday, January 26. The occasion was to celebrate their aunt

Beth Hocking's 90th birthday. Friends and relatives with warm wishes gathered from as far away as Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Colorado, Tennessee, and California.

Leland Pawley of Gulliver passed through St. Ignace Friday en route to Petoskey for an appointment.

Wendy McCluskey reports a



Heather Brady and her two daughters, Azalea (left), 3, and Wisteria, 2, enjoy pizza at Pizza Around the Town, an event sponsored by the St. Ignace Chamber of Commerce Ambassadors at the LaSalle High School cafeteria Thursday evening, January 31. Eight local businesses participated, providing several kinds of pizza, treats, and beverages before the Saints basketball game.

local support group has formed for weight loss participants, meeting the second Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at Mackinac Straits Primary Care at the hospital in St. Ignace.

The Kiwanis Club will be hosting an indoor tailgate dinner Friday, February 8, from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at LaSalle High School. All proceeds benefit the

school band program.

Please keep Linda Wilkins in your prayers as she recovers from knee surgery. She was a patient in Traverse City last Monday.

Birthday wishes to Joan Valier February 7 and Darlene Brown February 8.

DeTour Area

By Barbara Buschbacher

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Now that the Super Bowl football game is over, we can concentrate on enjoying our favorite winter sports. Many of us look forward to attending the winter festivals held in all the towns in the area.

DeTour's Winterfest will now be referred to as the ELF ("Everyone Loves Fun") Festival. New events will be introduced this year. The festival will be Saturday, March 1, with all activities, registrations for the different events, and crafts generating at the Village Hall. Time set for the festival will be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This year, a chowder cook-off contest will replace the usual chili cook-off. Another contest will be a chicken wing cook-off, as well as a "hot" chicken wing cook-off.

A brownie bake-off will feature three categories for elementary school students, middle school students, and adults.

Tables are still available for the arts and crafts vendors. To reserve a table, call Taci Kovisto at (906) 297-8830. To register for all other events and contest rules, phone Debbie Fountain at (906) 297-5024.

Ongoing events include a marshmallow roast with hot chocolate, a frozen white fish throw, snowshoe sprint, and poker rallies, including a walk and a snowmobile run. Sleigh rides or wagon hayrides are planned. Glacier Mountain is being built for sledding for the children. There will be an ice sculpture contest and a

sled-decorating contest for the children. To conclude the activities, there will be a snowmobile parade.

David Rhinard will direct the school children in a musical called "Willie Wonka and the Chocolate Factory." This production will be presented at the school in March.

The E.U.P. fine Arts announced the spring production of "On Golden Pond," also directed by Mr. Rhinard. Dates for this presentation and auditions will be announced soon.

"Kitchen Witches" will be the summer production, in which Dawn Hamelink will be making her debut as director and Heather VanDaele will be producer.

Have a great week and keep this thought in mind: Don't only do what you like to do, but learn to like what has to be done.

Hockey Association Reinstates Mites Team

* Continued from page 19

with at least one team at the tournament, the Root River Rangers of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. The two teams met last year during the Rangers' Steel City Tournament, with the Firehawks the victors.

Coach Esson's team plays in the Little Caesars Amateur Hockey League, one of the largest leagues in the country. It is operated by the Illitch family, who own the Detroit Red Wings hockey franchise and the Detroit Tigers baseball franchise.

The Firehawks are in Division II in the league, which include teams from Jackson, Battle Creek, Holland, Cadillac, Traverse City, and Fort Wayne, Indiana, which will play home games in Jackson.

This year's team, in its second year, is improving on its 23-35-2 record from last year, playing close to 0.500 hockey so far, said Coach Esson.

"We definitely have had our ups and downs and we've had a hard time gelling as a team, but I think we're performing better than last year," he said. "We're a better team, we're just not showing it yet."

The top four teams will advance to the state semifinals Saturday, February 23, and Sunday, February 24, at St. Clair Shores.

The Firehawks face Escanaba in the first game. St. Ignace is 2-1-1 against Escanaba.

The second match-up is against St. Clair Shores. The Firehawks faced them this year, losing a close game, 4-3. The third and perhaps the toughest game is against Flint, said Coach Esson. St. Ignace went 1-3 against them this season.

"We win two games, and we're in," he said. "I think if we play as well as I expect they can, we'll make it. Our chances are really good."

Coach Esson is assisted by Matt Parker and Willie Soden. Student coaches and former players Kyle Stabile of Sault Ste. Marie and Mike McKillip of Petoskey are also assisting.

Bantam (Ages 13-14)

The St. Ignace Bantam team, coached by Eric Danielson, placed runner-up at its district tournament in Petoskey Friday, February 1, and Saturday, February 2. It lost a close 5-3 game to Tawas City in the championship game.

"I thought we played the best hockey all year," said Coach Danielson.

Tawas City will advance to state finals. The 12-team tournament included teams from Cadillac, Cheboygan, Tawas City, and Mackinaw City.

Pee Wee (Ages 11-12)

The Pee Wee team traveled to Gaylord Friday, February 1, and Saturday, February 2, making it as far as the semi-finals before falling to Gaylord 4-0, finishing 2-1-1 in the 12-team tournament.

Coach Scott Winkelman was able to round up 12 players to

make a pee wee team this year. At the start of the season, the hockey association was unsure it would have a pee wee team.

Last year, 17 players were playing at the pee wee level in St. Ignace, however, most, if not all, had advanced to another level or played elsewhere this year.

"I didn't think we were going to have one, but we were able to find 12 players so this is a very successful season," said Coach Winkelman.

Mites / Initiation (Ages 8 and younger)

Five children participated in the hockey association's mites and initiation program, coached by Mr. Eberts, Mr. Danielson, and Dave Kellan.

Players included Kennedy and Callie Kammers, Dakota Holbrook, Gavin Gustafson, all of the St. Ignace area, and Joseph Horn-Kelly of Trout Lake.

The group will finish its season at the end of February.

Additional Notes

The hockey association will be raffling four Red Wings hockey tickets for the final home game of the season April 7 against the rival Chicago Blackhawks.

Tickets are \$10 each and proceeds toward supporting the local hockey programs and help curb expenses such as registration fees with USA Hockey.

The drawing will announced at the final home games for the squirts, bantam, and pee wee teams at Little Bear East February 17, during the Chipper Huskey Memorial Skate, which is open to the public after the games have concluded.

The day coincides with Hockey Weekend Across America, a red letter day for hockey fans to honor the sport.

To purchase raffle tickets, contact Doug Goudreau at 643-9845 or Scott Winkelman at 643-6970.

The hockey association will also hold its annual golf outing fundraiser at the St. Ignace Golf Course on Father's Day, June 14. The tournament will be a four-man scramble.

Local hockey players will volunteer to operate concessions at the Upper Peninsula Pond Hockey Championships on the ice of Moran Bay near the dock at Shepler's Mackinac Island Ferry in St. Ignace Saturday, February 23, and Sunday, February 24.

Chamber Board To Meet Feb. 13

The St. Ignace Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors will meet Wednesday, February 13, at 7:30 a.m. at the Chamber office. Meetings are open to the public.

doctor asked if she saved the deviled eggs, she replied that she only lost a couple.

Pega and John Kennedy motored to Mackinaw City Saturday for the Mackinaw Mush, and some shopping.

Ellen and Bob Berry have spent time downstate with friends and family, celebrating the birth of their children. In their spare time, they have been skiing at the Dunes, McNeerney Park, West Branch, Roscommon, and the Algonquin Park in Sault Ste. Marie.

Lunch at Trinity Lutheran Church was well attended last week. It was another tasty meal. We will gather again this coming Friday.

A work bee was organized for the Hope Chest resale store in St. Ignace Saturday. Many volunteers showed up with buckets, rags, and rubber gloves, including two from Brevort, Mary Carney and Shari Baron.

Trinity Lutheran Church council will meet Friday at 2:30 p.m. at the fellowship hall.

The days are getting longer. Yea!

Happy birthday to Jerri rose February 10, Lucy Evashevski February 11, and Pastor Tari Stage-Harvey February 13.

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"I was 37 and weighed more than 300 pounds. I knew where I was headed. I put Dr. Featherstone right up there with my family and God. He truly did save my life."

- Shelley Heinz, Traverse City



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