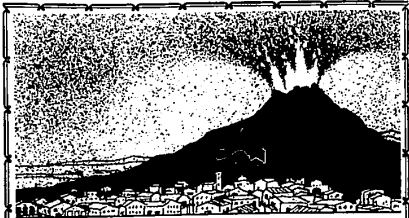


Muzzleloading season starts tomorrow



On August 24, A.D. 79, about midday, the volcano Vesuvius which had lain dormant throughout historical time literally "blew its top", sending up a mushroom cloud and pouring forth fire, smoke and hot ashes. Within hours the towns in the plain vanished beneath the volcanic shower, which in the case of Pompeii covered the area to a depth of about 18 feet.

THE LAST DAYS OF POMPEII LESSONS FOR TODAY

You are invited to hear this interesting slide illustrated Bible talk by Mr. A.H. Nicholls of Birmingham, England LORD WILLING, ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1977 at 7:30 P.M. at the CHRISTADELPHIAN HALL 36516 Parkdale, Livonia (ONE BLOCK SOUTH AND WEST OF PLYMOUTH AND LEVANS) DIRECTIONS: Just 1 1/2 miles South of the new I-96 Interchange Freeway, Letran Exit.

You are also invited to hear MR. CYRIL COOPER of Watford, England speak Sunday, December 4, 1977 at 2:15 on the Bible topic "A DIVINE INVITATION"

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By LEM MESEE Outdoors writer

If you came home empty-handed, you'll have another chance to bag yourself a buck. But it'll be a challenge.

Michigan's special muzzleloading deer season starts statewide Dec. 2, on the heels of the regular firearm hunting season.

Last year about 11,500 hunters took to the woods with that historic firearm and 200 bucks were taken.

Hunters must use a muzzleloading rifle or shotgun, .44 caliber or larger, with a round ball and black powder.

But you thought the regular deer season was challenging? Well, by its very nature, the muzzleloader puts even more restrictions on hunters. Most muzzleloaders, to be sure of clean shot, limit their shots to no more than 75 yards.

If that isn't enough, you may find that your gun won't fire even after you've crept into range and have carefully aligned your sights.

Although a misfire is a rare occurrence, it can happen. If it does, there are probably two reasons—the gun is dirty or the charge fouled.

If you're going to head north with a muzzleloader slung over your shoulder, you must take great care to be sure the gun is clean before loading.

Many hunters stop occasionally to change the priming or nipple, especially on damp or rainy days.

The priming is the finer powder in the flintlock's pan, and the nipple is the tiny tube-like part upon which the cap is placed.

If you're going to try muzzleloading for the first time, the only black powder you should use is the commercially-manufactured type specifically designed for muzzleloaders.

There is one alternative—a specific brand of powder, Pryodex, made by Hodgdon Powder Co.



Outdoors

WHILE DEER hunting season was on for some, there was little action for those looking for small game.

•In Livingston County, duck and goose hunting pressure was down.

•In Oakland County, hunters had fair success with rabbits, but waterfowl hunters were way down. Ducks and geese are all in protected or closed areas.

•Flight ducks came in good numbers over Washtenaw County.

•Layout shooters in Wayne County had fair success for bluejays on Lake Erie. Some goldeneye and buffleheads were taken between Sugar Island and Pie. Mouillee. Hunting pressure, though, was way down due to little success. Rabbit and upland game hunting pressure was very light.

AND IF hunting, muzzleloading or otherwise, isn't your bag, you can still make it into the woods.

Kensington Metropark will sponsor two nature walks Dec. 10 and 11. Both will be conducted at the Nature Center, both will begin at 9 a.m., and both are free and open to families and individuals.

On Dec. 10 you can examine the remains of last season's flowers, fruits and leaves which add their own touch of beauty to the winter season. The title, "Winter Wildflowers."

And on Dec. 11 you can wander the Deer Run Trail and find out how trees survive winter's chill.

Advanced registration is required. Contact Kensington's Nature Center at 685-1561.

Items for an outdoorsman's (and woman's) calendar:

The State Department of Natural Resources will hold a public hearing at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8 on proposed revisions in the Great Lakes Shorelands Rules.

Site will be Room 293 of Building J on the Orchard Ridge Campus of Oakland Community College, Orchard Lake Road at 1486, Farmington Hills.

"The rules govern Great Lakes shoreland high-risk erosion areas, environmental areas and flood risk areas," according to a DNR announcement. "The proposed revisions are designed to make the rules easier to understand, to clarify equal protection and to remove unnecessary restrictions."

"The role of a local governmental agency is also explained in the proposed rules," copies of which may be obtained from DNR's district office in Pontiac.

The Orchard Ridge hearing will be the only one in the metropolitan Detroit area. Others will be in Alpena, Sault Ste. Marie, Holland, Traverse City, Escanaba, Bay City and Brighton.

AN ARTISTS' contest for design of the 1978 Michigan waterfowl hunting stamp opens Dec. 1.

Anyone 18 or older who is a state resident may enter by writing for contest rules and agreement to: Wildlife Division, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Box 30028 Lansing, MI 48909.

Any living species of migratory game bird commonly occurring in Michigan may be the dominant feature of the design. The design must be the artist's original creation and cannot be a copy or duplicate of previously published art, including published photographs.

The 1977 winner was Larry Hayden of Farmington Hills. The 10 finalists included a disproportionate number from the metropolitan suburbs, we're proud to say.

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