

Metropark seasonal fees hiked

By Lem Masse
staff writer

While the Michigan Legislature wrangles over how much to increase hunting and fishing licenses each year, there was no hesitancy on the part of the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority board.

Season vehicle passes will go up to \$10 for 1986. They had been \$7.

Senior citizens will pay \$5 instead of \$2 for an annual sticker.

Daily admission to one of the 13 metroparks will continue to be \$2.

Annual permits are now on sale at metropark gates and in the downtown offices in 3050 Penobscot Building. (No sales by mail.)

HCMC director James J. Pompo said the increase reflects higher operating and maintenance costs.

Some new facilities have required more staff — notably at Indian Springs near Clarkston, Huron Meadows south of Brighton and Lake Erie Metropark in Brownstown Township.

CATCH HALLEY'S Comet — If the sky is clear — through a telescope at Independ-

outdoors

ence Oak County Park Saturday, Dec. 28.

Naturalist Kathleen Dougherty will explain fact and fable about the once-in-75-years phenomenon in a program from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in the nature center. An outdoor viewing session will follow. Bring binoculars if you have them.

Independence Oaks is on Sashabaw Road 2 1/2 miles north of I-75 near Clarkston. There is a \$2.50 per vehicle charge at the gate.

The nature center is open all winter from 10 to 5 Tuesdays through Sundays.

ICE FISHING hasn't started yet on most lakes we've observed, and the state Department of Natural Resources confirms our suspicion that ice still isn't safe.

It takes several days of below-freezing

temperatures — preferably near zero — before the ice is safe. Even then, the smart angler and skater will avoid ice with a bluish tint.

The old rules of thumb:

"One inch — stay off."

"Two inches — one may."

"Three inches — small groups."

"Four inches — OK."

Another old-timers' rule is that "first ice" is best for fishing. Once the deep freeze of February hits, the ice is thick for drilling, and fish have slowed down too much for angling success.

RABBIT hunting is good on state lands throughout Oakland County, DNR conservation officers report. Squirrel hunters are having success, too.

Deer are moving about, so hunters with muzzleloaders should find hunting good.

KENSINGTON Metropark nature center will have a program on animal survival at 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 22. The program is free, but register in advance by calling the metropark office at 1-800-552-6772.

Groveland Oaks expansion sought

Oakland County is asking the state land trust for \$345,000 to expand Groveland Oaks County Park northward.

The county board of commissioners last week approved the resolution to seek 80 percent state funding. The remaining \$86,000 would come from a quarter-mill property tax collected each year for parks.

"It provides a pleasant and natural scenic view, which will undoubtedly be lost to

development if not acquired," according to Ralph Richards, parks director.

THE COUNTY seeks money to buy 191 acres from Groveland Valley Investment Corp., owned by Norman B. Miller of Hazel Park, for a total of \$431,000.

The site is east of I-75 and Dixie Highway and south of Tripp Road. The land consists of open meadows and some wetlands. It borders Simpson Lake and Thread Creek.

"Groveland Oaks is overdeveloped in terms of density of camping," the county's request said.

It said the addition would provide opportunities for "hiking trails, fishing, nature interpretive areas, cross country skiing as well as securing a natural wooded buffer zone (for) the existing camping facilities at Groveland Oaks."

Groveland Oaks surrounds Stewart Lake. The addition, if approved, would add a second lake to the park property.

OCC will hold registration Jan. 2-3

Regular registration at Oakland Community College will be held 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Jan. 2-3 based on an alphabetical schedule. Classes start Jan. 4.

Students may register at any one of the college's campuses: the Auburn Hills Campus in Auburn Hills (853-4200); the Highland Lakes Campus in Union Lake (350-3000); the Orchard Ridge Campus in Farm-

ington Hills (471-7500); and the Southeast oyal Oak Campus in Royal Oak (967-5700).

New students are advised to contact an admissions counselor at the campus of their choice for a schedule of classes and information on admission procedures.

FOR OCC winter enrichment classes for K-12 students, registration is in progress.

Registration will continue up to the first class meeting.

Most classes begin Feb. 8 with dance classes beginning Jan. 25.

For a complete course listing, call the Orchard Ridge campus at 471-7595 or 471-7567.

The courses are offered to students aged 6-18 with emphasis on the academically and talented.

David Wachler & Sons Is Proud To Introduce The Jean Lassale Collection of Fine Timepieces.



THALASSA.
Inspired By The Sea,
And Made To Resist It.

WITH THALASSA, IN 18K GOLD, OR A HARMONY OF STAINLESS STEEL AND 14K GOLD. WATER-RESISTANT. PERHAPS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WATCH IN THE WORLD.

David Wachler & Sons

THE FAMILY OF AWARD-WINNING JEWELRY DESIGNERS

Downtown Birmingham • 540-4627

Renaissance Center, Detroit • 259-6922

Certified Gemologists. Members American Gem Society

News that's closer to home • News that's closer to home • News that's closer to home

VIC TANNY HOLIDAY SPECIAL

Fitness. It's one of the best gifts you can give this holiday season...to yourself or a friend. And right now, you can get the finest in fitness for less at Vic Tanny, America's number 1 health club chain.

Take advantage of Vic Tanny's Holiday Special and get 2 years of membership for the price of the first year alone. You'll enjoy 2 years of the finest facilities, the best equipment, superb instruction and more...all for the price of just 1 year.

This holiday season, treat yourself or a friend to the greatest gift of all...a Vic Tanny membership. These are your final days to save, so hurry. Call Vic Tanny today!



2 YEARS FOR THE PRICE OF THE FIRST YEAR ALONE

FINAL DAYS
Hurry...offer ends Dec. 22nd!

VIC TANNY EXECUTIVE HEALTH & RACQUET CLUB

6420 Telegraph Rd. at Maple Rd. — Call...855-2300