

Fishing tourney aids child abuse centers

AN INFANT cries out in hunger and pain from his cradle in a dimly lit room... but no one hears. It's been several hours since the child has eaten and his bottom and legs are raw from the irritation of a wet diaper. He cries out for help, but no one hears. His mother is down the street selling her soul at a local crack house.

A little brown-eyed girl snivels in the corner pleading for forgiveness. "I'm sorry daddy, Don't be mad. I promise I won't spill my milk again," she pleads as her eye begins to swell from the backhand she just received from "daddy."

Child abuse is a very ugly, but real, tragedy which strikes every community in America. Nationally, five children die each day because of some form of child abuse. In Michigan alone there are an average of 49,000 reported cases of child abuse each year. And those are only the ones that get reported.

VICTIMIZED CHILDREN cannot battle this abuse themselves. They need help.

On April 21, a group of anglers from throughout the state will be doing its part to help battle this tragic abuse of children by participating in the 12th annual River Crab Salmon Stakes fishing tournament, sponsored by Chuck Muer's River Crab restaurant in St. Clair.

Money generated through the sale of \$10 raffle/entry tickets is distributed to child abuse and neglect centers throughout the state. The tournament has raised better than \$50,000 each of the past two years. The six-year total is better than \$240,000.

THE NORTHWEST GUI-



outdoors

Bill Parker

DANCE Clinic in Garden City is one of the agencies that benefits from the tournament.

"This is the third year we have been a recipient of part of the raffle funds," said Stefanie Ott-O'Toole, director of resource development at the Northwest Guidance Clinic. "The tournament has been a very positive (fund-raiser) for us."

The Northwest Guidance Clinic receives 50 percent of the money from the tickets sold at the clinic. That has amounted to between \$12,000 and \$15,000 each year, according to Ott-O'Toole.

"I think it's wonderful that the fishermen, or any sportsperson, gets involved with a worthy cause," Ott-O'Toole said. "I have found that sport people in general tend to be very philanthropic. It's very nice of these people to try to help other families that are in need."

The Northwest Clinic assists close to 2,500 families in Wayne County and the surrounding area each year.

ANGLERS AND non-anglers alike can do their part to help by purchasing a \$10 raffle/entry ticket at either the Guidance Clinic (6012 Merriman Road, Garden City) or the Blue Water Mental Health Clinic (1501 Kraft Road, Port Huron) the primary beneficiary of the tournament. Donations are also accepted.

All tickets are good for entry into the tournament and for \$10 off dinner-for-two at any of the

Chuck Muer restaurants statewide. All tickets also go into a raffle with prizes including a 1990 LeBaron convertible; \$1,000 in gift certificates to Chuck Muer's restaurants; a fishing trip for four aboard the Sea Duce charter boat along with dinner and lodging at the River Crab Motor Inn; two invader downriggers; an evening for two at the River Crab Motor Inn, including dinner, lodging and lunch/brunch.

Tickets are also available at any Chuck Muer's restaurant including Charley's Crab in Troy and Gandy Dancer in Ann Arbor. The Sanctuary Inc., in Royal Oak; and Child Abuse and Neglect Council in Pontiac.

ANGLERS WHO WISH to get in on the fishing action can participate in either the salmon or walleye division.

With all the proceeds donated to charity, there aren't any huge cash prizes, although some lucky anglers will walk away a little pocket money.

The angler catching the largest walleye wins \$500. The angler catching the largest salmon receives a plaque and a free roast. The fishing club that catches the most fish will win \$5,000, which has been used in the past on fish habitat improvement projects. Anglers lucky enough to catch a DNR fin-clipped salmon will receive \$100 each.

Several local anglers cashed in last year, including Rochester's Mark Duval, who received biggest fish honors for landing a 19.76-pound king (chub) salmon. The fish is displayed at the River Crab through April 21.

Livonia's Chuck Rachwitz, Birmingham's Ron Huey and Troy's Rick Pearl all each received \$100 for catching a DNR fin-clipped salmon.



Larry Lixey of Lixey's Bait and Tackle in St. Clair removes the hook from a Lake Huron king salmon. Hundreds of anglers are expected to converge on St. Clair on April 21 for the River Crab Salmon Stakes fishing tournament.

outdoors calendar

IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

● April 15-21 — Michigan Wildlife Prevention Week.

● April 19 — Paul H. Young Chapter of Trout Unlimited will hold its annual fund-raising banquet beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the Royale House in Warren. Former Tiger great Jim Northrup will emcee the event. Banquet tickets, which include cocktails and dinner and must be purchased in advance, are \$35 each. Proceeds from the banquet will be used by the Paul H. Young Chapter on various projects to improve the quality of Michigan's cold-water lakes and streams. For ticket information, call Rick Reid weekdays at 353-4555.

● April 21 — River Crab Salmon Stakes fishing tournament, with an additional walleye division this year, will be held in St. Clair. Proceeds

from the sale of \$10 raffle/entry tickets will be used to benefit child abuse and neglect programs statewide. Tickets are available at the Northwest Guidance Clinic, 6012 Merriman Road, Garden City; The Sanctuary Inc., 1232 S. Washington, Royal Oak or by calling the River Crab at 329-2216.

● April 21 — The National Fishing Lure Collector's Club will hold its eighth annual Southeast Michigan Antique Fishing Tackle and Fish Decoy Show at the Ramada Hotel Heritage Center in Southgate. For more information, call Rick Trembl at 842-2589 after 4:30 p.m.

● April 22 — Riverbend Sport Shop, at 29229 Northwestern Hwy., Southfield, will conduct a fly fishing class. Course fee is \$90 and includes equipment and lunch. Additional classes will be held on April 29, May 6 and 20, June 3 and 10 and July 15 and 22. Each class is limited to 12

students. Call 350-8484 for more information.

● April 27 — Trout season opens on designated trout streams and trout lakes.

● April 29 — The Western Wayne County Conservatory Association will hold a 3-D archery shoot at its walk-through range in Plymouth. The shoot is open to the public and archers may use their own equipment or arrangements with the WWCVA staff to try out a bow. Call 453-9843 during business hours or 525-1358 evenings for more information.

● June 9-10 — Free Fishing Weekend statewide.

METROPARKS

● Stopping the flog, a program in which children can learn about life on the farm, will be offered at 3 p.m. Saturday at the Kensington Farm Center.

● Early Spring Wildflowers, a walk through the park in search of spring wildflowers, will be offered at 2 p.m. Sunday at Kensington.

● Nature's Easter Flowers, an opportunity to spend Easter afternoon among spring's early woodland wildflowers, will be offered at 2 p.m. Sunday at Stony Creek.

● Wildflower Walk, a naturalist-led walk searching for spring wildflowers, will be offered at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Sunday at Indian Springs.

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Morning and Afternoon Classes:

Starting:	Days:	Times (1 Hour):	Term:
April 10	Tues & Thurs	1:00 p.m.	3 Weeks
April 24	Tues & Thurs	11:00 a.m.	3 Weeks
May 8	Tues & Thurs	10:00 a.m.	3 Weeks
May 15	Tues & Thurs	11:30 a.m.	3 Weeks
May 29	Tues & Thurs	2:00 p.m.	3 Weeks
June 11	Mon & Wed	2:00 p.m.	3 Weeks
June 26	Tues & Thurs	11:00 a.m.	3 Weeks
July 10	Mon & Wed	2:00 p.m.	3 Weeks
July 24	Tues & Thurs	11:00 a.m.	3 Weeks

Evening Classes:

Starting:	Days:	Times (1 Hour):	Term:
April 9	Mon & Wed	5:45 p.m.	3 Weeks
April 17	Tues & Thurs	5:45 p.m.	3 Weeks
April 23	Friday	7:00 p.m.	3 Weeks
April 23	Mon & Wed	7:00 p.m.	3 Weeks
April 24	Tues & Thurs	7:00 p.m.	3 Weeks
April 30	Mon & Wed	5:45 p.m.	3 Weeks
May 6	Mon & Wed	5:45 p.m.	3 Weeks
May 8	Tues & Thurs	8:00 p.m.	3 Weeks
May 14	Mon & Wed	7:00 p.m.	3 Weeks
May 21	Mon & Wed	5:45 p.m.	3 Weeks
May 22	Tues & Thurs	7:00 p.m.	3 Weeks
May 29	Tues & Thurs	8:00 p.m.	3 Weeks
June 5	Tues & Thurs	5:45 p.m.	3 Weeks
June 11	Mon & Wed	7:00 p.m.	3 Weeks
June 18	Tues & Thurs	7:00 p.m.	3 Weeks
June 26	Tues & Thurs	5:45 p.m.	3 Weeks
July 3	Tues & Thurs	5:45 p.m.	3 Weeks
July 9	Mon & Wed	8:00 p.m.	3 Weeks
July 17	Tues & Thurs	7:00 p.m.	3 Weeks
July 24	Tues & Thurs	8:00 p.m.	3 Weeks
July 30	Mon & Wed	7:00 p.m.	3 Weeks
August 6	Tues & Thurs	7:00 p.m.	3 Weeks
August 13	Mon & Wed	8:00 p.m.	3 Weeks
August 21	Tues & Thurs	5:45 p.m.	3 Weeks

YOUTH GROUP GOLF LESSONS...4 LESSONS FEE \$42.00

Starting:	Days:	Times (1 Hour):	Age:	Term:
May 5	Saturdays	1:00 p.m.	7-16	4 Weeks
May 12	Saturdays	1:00 p.m.	7-16	4 Weeks
June 5	Tues & Thurs	10:00 a.m.	7-16	2 Weeks
June 9	Sundays	10:00 a.m.	7-16	2 Weeks
June 18	Mon & Wed	1:00 p.m.	7-16	2 Weeks
June 25	Tues & Thurs	1:00 p.m.	7-16	2 Weeks
July 9	Mon & Wed	10:00 a.m.	7-16	2 Weeks
July 10	Tues & Thurs	2:00 p.m.	7-16	2 Weeks
July 16	Mon & Wed	1:00 p.m.	7-16	2 Weeks
July 30	Mon & Wed	1:00 p.m.	7-16	2 Weeks
August 13	Mon & Wed	1:00 p.m.	7-16	2 Weeks

*No Lessons May 26, 29 and July 7

SIGN UP NOW... CLASSES ARE FILLING UP!

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