

# Kent, Orion lakes offer good fishing

## OUTDOOR INSIGHTS

### PARKER

Just when I thought we'd have an exceptional ice fishing season, the weather service went and rained on my parade. With rain and warmer temperatures reaching into the lower 40s through the beginning of the week, ice fishermen are again advised to use extreme caution if venturing out on ice lakes.

Temperatures are expected to dip back into the 30s during the day and teens in the evening by the end of next week, so conditions should improve by next weekend.

When deciding on which lake to hit for hot winter action a couple lakes come to mind.

Kent Lake, located in Kensington Metropark near Milford, holds one of the best inland lake walleye populations around.

The Department of Natural Resources annually stocks Kent Lake with walleye fry, which provides a good year-around fishery.

Fish in the 15- to 20-inch range are caught with regularity, and the DNR estimates there is an average of three fish per acre.

"We nearly over did it (on Kent Lake) with the walleye," said Gary Towns, fisheries supervisor at the DNR's District 10 field headquarters in Livonia.

"The walleye are doing very well, but the blue gill have kind of taken it. Crappie and pike fishing is still pretty decent."

Walleye are a low-light fish and the best action usually occurs early in the morning and late in the afternoon. During the winter months the deeper holes are especially productive since the Huron-Clinton Metropark Authority drops the lake level three feet each winter.

Walleye and pike lurk off the drop near the deep holes by the dam at the southern end of the lake. A good spot for crappies is in front of that dam in 15 to 20 feet of water.

To check on ice conditions and get fishing updates call the park at (248) 685-1561 or (800) 24-PARKS.

Lake Orion is another good winter destination. With a ton of points, islands and bays, there's no shortage of potential "hot spots" to check out.

While pike and pan fish are the mainstays in Lake Orion, the lake should also see the benefits of a walleye stocking effort the DNR began a few years ago, although there have been few reports of walleyes being caught so far.

Pike anglers have good success fishing with tip-ups and in seaparing shanties between Park Island and the eastern shore of the lake along M-24. Be sure to check the edges of the dropoff along the shoreline just south of the dam, which empties into Paint Creek.

Some of the best blue gill fishing occurs in the bay in front of the boat ramp off Indian Lake Road, and on the eastern end of the lake in the bay in front of Saug Harbor Marina. Blue gill are also plentiful in the bay west of Belleville Island, which also runs parallel to Heights.

For current fishing updates and ice conditions call Hook, Line and Sinker (248) 814-9216.

## Reward offered

Late last summer, some thugs broke into a taxidermy in Fowlerville and stole approximately 25 sets of antlers that were in the taxidermy to be mounted. Each one of those racks had sentimental value to the hunters who had worked hard to harvest them. No money can replace them, but photographs taken by the owners of these antlers can be used to identify many of them.

The Michigan Chapter of Whitetails Unlimited and the DNR are offering a \$1,000 reward for any information that may lead to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for this crime.

Information may be forwarded to Detective John Jurich of the DNR Wildlife Resources Protection Unit at 800-292-7800, or Detective Todd Luzzo of the Livingston County Sheriff's Department at 517-546-2440. All information will remain confidential.

Authorities think that with the increased interest in white-tail trophies, mounted antlers and antler art, that there is a viable market today for such items.

(Bill Parker writes a weekly outdoor column for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. Hunters and anglers are urged to report their success. Questions and comments are also encouraged. Send information to: Bill Parker, c/o Outdoors, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009)

# Women all-stars join men's league



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Steve Klein has been around the local bowling scene for many years, first as a member of the Men's All-Star League at Thunderbowl Lanes, later as owner and operator of the All-Star Grille, running the food service at Cloverlanes in Livonia, Plaza Lanes in Plymouth and Cherry Hill Lanes on Lakewood Road.

As if that wasn't enough, he opened the Pro Shop at Plaza Lanes. Now you could get your ball drilled and your tummy filled by one and the same, Steve Klein.

Klein is expanding the scope another step further at Plaza Lanes with more news coming soon. Now as if that was not enough, Steve was fortunate to have picked the right ladies team to sponsor, for as you would have already known by now that his All-Star Grille team is the one and same which bowled the \$,600 series at Cloverlanes Nov. 20 to stake a claim to a new world and WIBC record-breaking series for a ladies team. By the way, next time you are in one of the All-Star Grilles, be sure to order yourself the "Al Harrison Burger," what a treat!

Last Tuesday marked the first time that an all-female team has joined the Men's All-Star League at Thunderbowl. They will compete right there along with some of the finest male bowlers in this entire area, many of whom had even gone out on the PBA Pro Tour.

Are they breaking with nearly 70 years of tradition? Yes. Are they in over their heads? No, absolutely not. This is the "All-Star Grille II" team which is composed of mainly the same record-setting players, Cyndi Black, Renee Palmer, Julie Wright, Carmen Allen, Lisa Bishop and Tanika Glenn, but also bolstered by the addition of Alecia Hill, Novella White and Michelle Mullin to the roster. There have been individual ladies competing in the All-Stars previously, but only individually and not as a team. In their first night of competition they won their first game but lost the next two.

Mark and Diane Voight of Farmington Hills have expanded their already substantial chain of bowling centers again with the recent acquisition of four more bowling centers. Classic Lanes in Rochester Hills, Shelby Lanes in Utica, Kingswood Lanes in Clinton Township and Van Dyke Lanes in Sterling Heights are now part of Community Bowling Centers, as the group is known. This group was formerly owned by Eric Bogedin and had been known as Bowling Fun Headquarters. It now brings the

total number of Voight's bowling centers to 22.

Every bowler has had to face up to the nasty 7-10 (snake eyes) split at some time or other. Along comes a magazine article that tells how to make that split, it happens to be the February 2001 issue of Men's Health.

Jeff Briggs, a certified USA bowling instructor tells how with pictures and diagrams on page 30. You can buy or browse the magazine at many of the larger news stands and bookstores in the area.

If you are a woman senior bowler (age 55 and up) and would like to participate in the 26th Annual Michigan Women's Senior Tournament this year, it will be held at Monroe Sport Center, 15425 South Dixie Highway in Monroe. It is a doubles or singles event. The dates are May 9 to 12 and May 16 to 20. There are five age class divisions, "AA"....75 and over, "A"....70 through 74, "B"....65 through 69, "C"....60 through 64 and "D"....55 through 59. Reservations are due by Feb. 17. Entries close March 24. It is a doubles tournament for men and women. The entry fee is \$10 per event. There are separate tournaments for men and women, but they are held at the same time, an advantage for married bowlers. For entry forms, call Shirley Steele at (734) 453-7718.

More good news for the kids:

New programs begin at the library at Westland, East-West "Kids Stuff" at 4 p.m. on Tuesday or Thursday for 30 per session per week starting Feb. 13 through Feb. 27. Two games of bowling, indoor soccer, free shoe rental, trophies and end of season party. Family Affair: One adult and one child at 6 p.m. Sundays starting Feb. 11 for 16 weeks: \$7 per person, includes three games of bowling, recorded averages, shoe rental, trophies and tickets to a Tiger ball game. Stop in at Westland Bowl on Wayne Road or call (734) 722-7670 for more information or entry forms.

**HONOR BOWLER:**  
Super Bowl (Continued)  
Super Tuesday: Steve Mushinski, 243-200-280/903.  
Twin & Country Lane (Westland)  
Wednesday Night Marching: Floyd Niederer, 299; Yves Krasinski, 299.  
Admission: Brian Yates, 300; Jerry Venters, 300.  
Good Sports: Mike Necker, 300.  
Saturday Mixed: Ron Brunsen, 300.

**Westland Bowl:**  
Men at Play: Don Harrison, 300.  
Twin Parks: Bob Schmidt, 300.  
Friday Men's Invitational: Mike Curves, 296.  
Sunday Sleepers: Bryan Mason, 300; Terry Teaser, 300.

JAN. 16<sup>TH</sup> - 31<sup>ST</sup> ONLY

# Pinch Yourself.

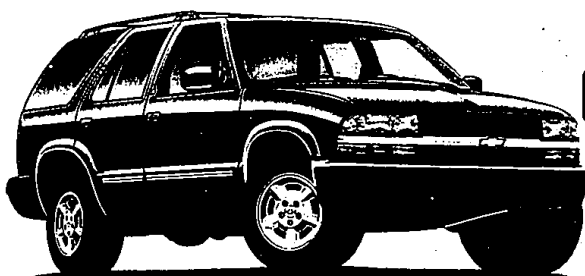
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## OUTDOORS

### METROPARKS

**METROPARK REQUIREMENTS**  
Most Metropark programs are free while some require a nominal fee. Advanced registration and a motor vehicle permit are required for all programs. Call the respective parks toll free at the following numbers: Stony Creek, 1-800-477-7766; Indian Springs, 1-800-477-3192; Kensington, 1-800-477-3178; Hudson Mills, 1-800-477-3191.

### ICE FISHING FOR SCOUTS

Ice fishing for Scouts will be held 10 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 20 at the Nature Center of Kensington Metropark. This is a chance for scouts to learn about ice fishing. Bring ice fishing poles and dress for the weather. Pre-registration is required. Call (248) 685-0603 or 1-800-477-3178 for registration information.