

Outdoororama takes a peek at summer delights

By LEM MESSEE
Outdoors writer

Some are indoors, some outdoors, but activities abound for the nature enthusiast.

Outdoororama, the state's biggest sports show, opens Friday, Jan. 25 for a 10-day run at the Michigan State Fairgrounds, Woodward south of Eight Mile in Detroit.

That's a change. The Michigan United Conservation Clubs' show used to be at the W. Eight Mile Detroit Artillery Armory.

Hundreds of exhibitors will show boats, camping equipment, firearms, fishing tackle, recreational vehicles, skin diving equipment, swimming pools and resort facilities.

Sportsmen's clubs and governmental agencies will have information booths. This year's stage show will have five acts, including Victor the Rastlin' Bear.

Proceeds are used for MUCC's non-profit conservation programs.

"SHOW RUSH," the annual cross

outdoors

country ski race at Independence Oaks County Park, is coming up Sunday, Jan. 27.

Deadline for registration is 5 p.m. Monday, Jan. 21. Registration fee is \$3. For materials, call the county parks office at 858-0915 in Pontiac.

Events include advanced and novice skier races of 15 and five kilometers, along with a two-km race for skiers aged 13 and under.

Independence Oaks is an 830-acre park on Sashabaw Road two miles north of Pine Knob in Clarkston. It has more than 16 km of groomed trails through scenic woodlands.

If snow conditions are poor, the event will be postponed to Feb. 3.

SIERRA CLUB Detroit Group will see two mountaineering films when it

meets at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 24, in Northwest Unitarian Universalist Church, 23925 Northwestern, Southfield.

"Solo" shows a lone climber in the Sierras, and "Everest" records the first American ascent of the world's highest mountain.

Interested persons as well as climbers may attend. Sierra Club meets the

fourth Thursday of each month through May. The Feb. 28 meeting will be on trekking through the Himalayas in Nepal.

SENIOR CITIZENS (age 62 and over) will be admitted for \$1 any time during the Detroit Camper Show Feb. 15-24 at the Detroit Artillery Armory, W. Eight Mile near Northland Center. Regular adult admission is \$3; children 6-12 pay \$1.

Show committee co-chairman are Earl Rafferty of Walker-Rafferty, Dearborn, and Howard Monson of Monson & Son, Dearborn Heights. Sponsoring group is the Michigan Association

of Recreational Vehicles and Campgrounds (MARVAC), headquartered in Livonia.

TWO PROGRAMS are planned for Sunday at the nature center of Kensington Metropark near Milford.

At 9 a.m., naturalist Steve Horn will lead a ski tour starting at the parking lot of the nature center. He will take about park history, geology and wildlife and make short stops on a five-mile trail. Bring your own skis.

At 1 p.m., naturalist Bob Hotelling will present a two-hour program on "bird banquets." The program will include a visit to feeding stations, so

dress warmly and bring your binoculars.

Both programs are free but require advance registration. Call the nature center at 665-1561. Take the Kensington Road exit from I-96 and follow the signs.

FUNERAL services were held Wednesday in Milford for Georgine Laidlaw, who died Jan. 12 in St. Mary Hospital, Livonia. She was the wife of David Laidlaw, director of the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority. Mrs. Laidlaw, 61, had been an English teacher in Milford and was active in antique and historical groups.

could you survive?

tips from the Air Force Survival School

You and two companions are on the second day of a four-day cross-country ski trip. You are traveling in an area generally above the tree line and are making good time.

Suddenly, a drastic change in the weather occurs. The temperature is 15 degrees, the wind is blowing at 10 mph and is increasing, and it is starting to snow. It is imperative that you get shelter as soon as possible.

WOULD YOU...

A. Begin digging a snow cave?

B. Start collecting available materials for the construction of a lean-to?

C. Continue traveling until you find a good wind break?

D. Move down into the tree line and locate a downed tree and burrow under it?

TO SURVIVE...

In all emergency situations, such as storms, where shelter is mandatory to survive, a person is wise to utilize what is available.

In the situation described, alternative A is the best selection. Considering your location above the tree line and the prevailing conditions, a shelter that would provide maximum retention of body heat is needed. A snow cave, with three people working on it, can be constructed in a manner of minutes — at least to a point where you are shielded from the elements. Once inside, you can expand the shelter to suit your desires.

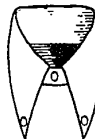
Alternative D would be acceptable if you were in a well-forested area. Seeking out a downed tree and burrowing is a quick way to get shelter, but under these conditions A is still the best solution, since the distance to such natural shelter is unknown.

B does not offer a reasonable alternative. You are in a snow-covered area above the tree line and are faced with severe weather. To attempt to gather materials would unnecessarily subject you to additional loss of body heat and energy.

C does not offer a definitive course of action that would solve your immediate needs. A wind break would not be adequate to protect you from the weather.

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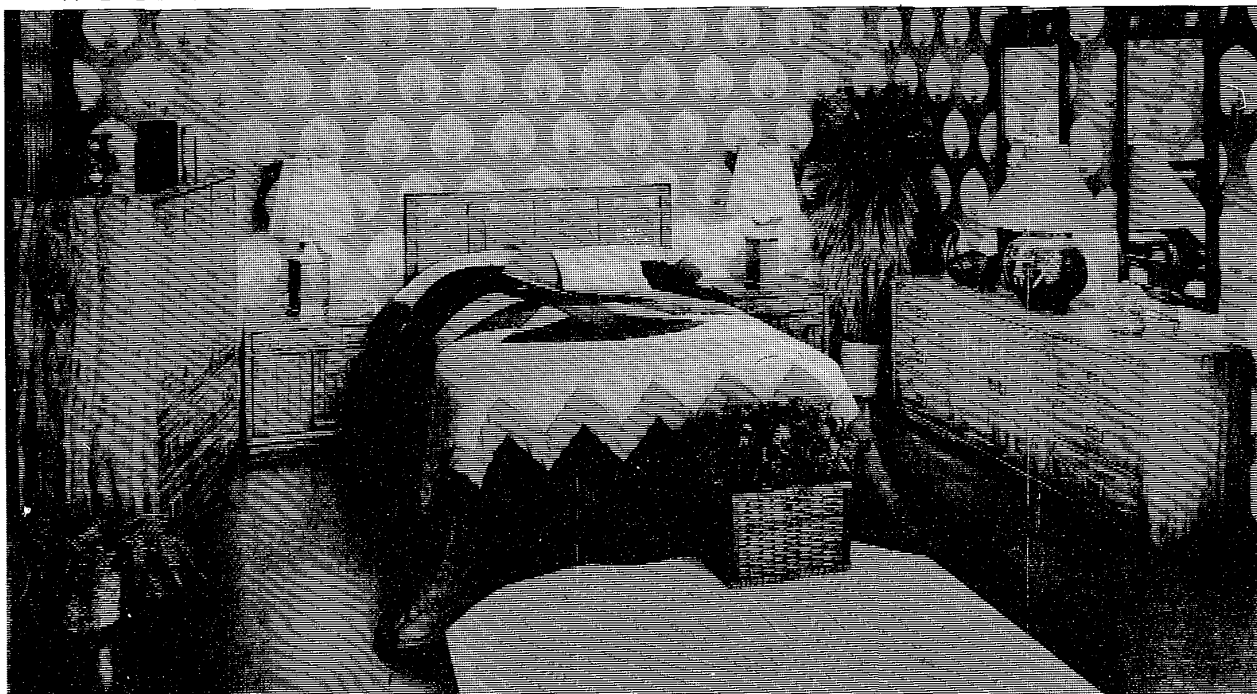
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