

# Skiers rush Independence; new chief at Kensington

By LEM MESEE  
Outdoors writer



HOWARD F. CHANTER  
Chief ranger

Independence Oaks County Park near Clarkston will be closed to general cross country skiing Sunday during the Snow Rush ski race.

Billed as Michigan's biggest nordic ski race, Snow Rush caters to novice and advanced skiers with races up to 15 kilometers. For skiers under age 14, there is a special 2-kilometer race.

The 15-kilometer race begins at 10 a.m., the five kilometer at 1 p.m. and the four kilometer at 2 p.m. Entry deadline has passed, but spectators may attend.

Independence Oaks is located on Sasabaw Road, 2 1/2 miles north of I-76 at Clarkston. The park is otherwise open seven days a week for cross country skiing, ice skating and ice fishing.

LEWIS E. WINT of Clarkston has been re-elected chairman of the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission.

A member of the body since 1974, Wint is serving his fourth term as chairman.

The nine-member group re-elected

## outdoors

Marjor M. Walker of Birmingham as vice chairman and Velma Austin of Royal Oak as secretary.

Ms. Walker is serving her fourth term as vice-chairman. She is a member of the Michigan Recreation and Parks Association board and is a Michigan representative on the National Recreation and Parks Association.

HOWARD F. CHANTER is the new chief park ranger at Kensington Metropark in western Oakland County.

Chanter, of Holly, was previously lieutenant in charge of road patrol services with the Oakland County Safety Division. He was in the U.S. Air Force from 1965-69 and taught self-defense for the Michigan Law Enforcement Officers Training Council.

He succeeds Robert L. Skellenger, 60, of Novi, who retired Dec. 31 after serving 26 years.

Kensington is the largest of the 11 Huron-Clinton Metroparks.

SNOWMOBILE trails at Addison Oaks Park in Oxford will be improved next season with assistance from a state grant of \$2,718 to the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission.

The grant will help provide for 13 miles of groomed snowmobile trails open on weekends. Addison Oaks covers 730 acres on W. Romeo Road, 12 miles north of Rochester.

The state grant comes from the Department of Natural Resources' recreational and snowmobiling trail program.

## State delays tanker ban

A Detroit metropolitan area ban on double-bottom tankers won't be extended to the rest of the state until November 1983.

Lt. Gov. James Brickley, acting in Gov. William Milliken's absence, signed legislation last week delaying a state-wide ban for two years.

Tandem tankers carrying flammable materials are banned from streets and highways in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties between 6 a.m. and midnight. The ban was to be extended throughout the state in November 1981. But House Bill 5020, which Brickley signed, delays the ban until November 1983.

The ban was the result of a number of fatal accidents involving double bottom tankers in the Detroit area in 1977.

Brickley said additional safety requirements on double bottom trucks have led to fewer accidents.

"We have obtained firm assurances from the trucking industry to support a continuation of fees necessary to allow the present level of inspection and enforcement by the State Police Fire Marshall Division," Brickley said.

"With this assurance, I believe it is reasonable to extend this date so long as current inspection levels are maintained."

## Seminars for woodland owners

Michigan residents are fortunate to live in a state blessed with abundant natural resources. The challenge is to manage these resources wisely so we can continue to enjoy their economic benefits and beauty.

Because woodlands will continue to be an important renewable source of energy, recreation and forest products, Michigan State University Extension Service is offering a series of woodland owners seminars.

These seminars will be held at 7:30 p.m. at Van Hoosen Junior High School on Adams Road, just north of Tienken Road in Rochester.

• Feb. 4 — Woodland ecology, assessment programs

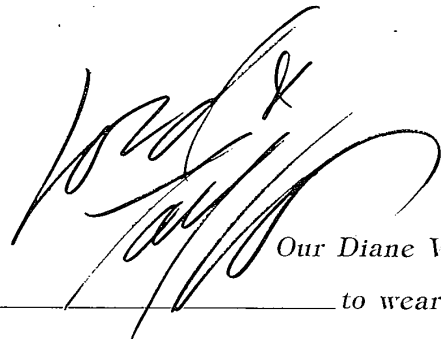
• Feb. 11 — Christmas trees and firewood production

• Feb. 18 — Wildlife management, selling timber

• Feb. 25 — Property laws, vandalism and protection

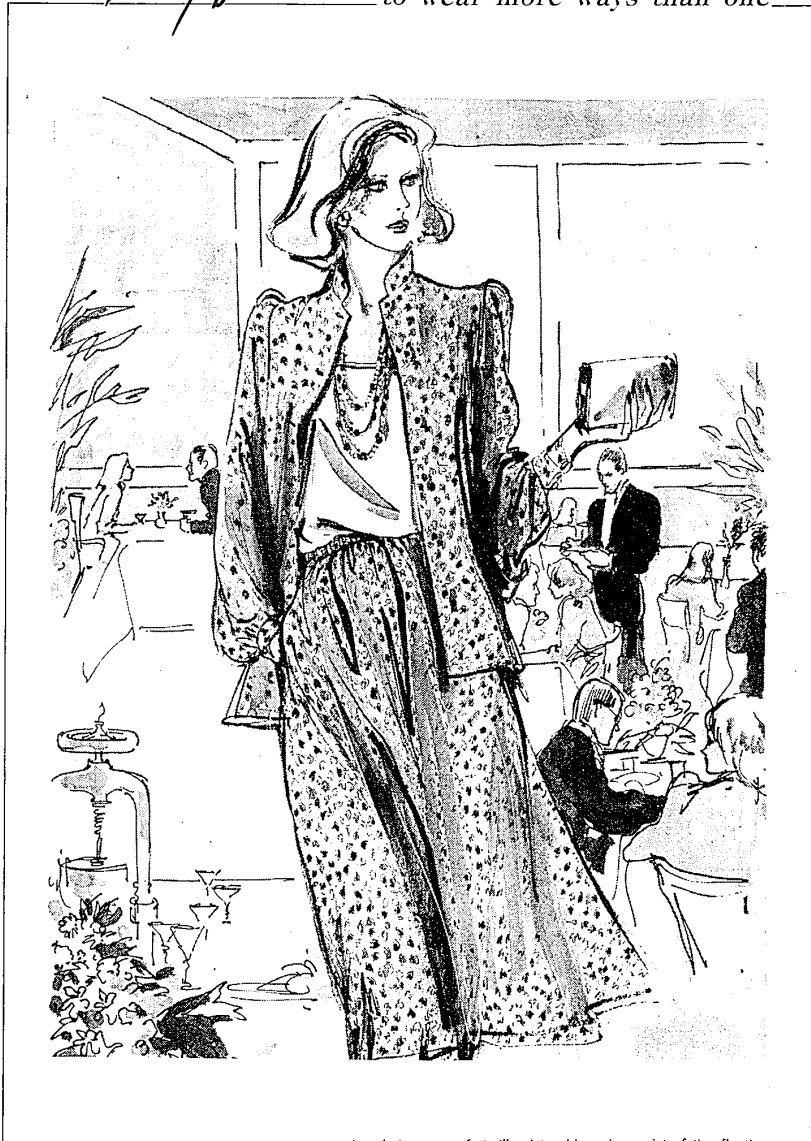
• March 4 — Trees in urban areas including selection, wildlife habitats, energy conservation.

The fee for each seminar is \$1 per person at the door. For additional information, call the Oakland County Extension Service at 858-0887.



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