

Metroparks offer outdoor recreation now to September

By Kevin Brown
staff writer

If the trials and tribulations of modern life have you down, take a break. For a little relaxation, try a trip to one of the Huron-Clinton Metroparks which offer fishing, boating, hiking, golf and other activities.

While some facilities don't open until mid-June, several are open now.

Pools and beaches open Saturday, the beginning of Memorial Day weekend.

Vehicle entry permits are required and cost \$2 daily, \$10 annually (\$5 for seniors).

Here's a rundown of area metroparks:

• **Stony Creek** — Set on 4,435 acres of rolling countryside six miles north of Ulica, the park includes six miles of hiking-hiking trail and bike rentals. Bathhouses at two beaches offer dressing rooms, heated showers, coin-operated lockers, food service and restrooms.

There are nature trails, a nature center with exhibits, an 18-hole golf course and boat launches. For fishermen, pike, small-mouth bass, perch, bluegills and crappies inhabit the lake.

Sailboats, rowboats, peddleboats and canoes are available for rent. Picnic areas include stoves, play equipment and restrooms. Hours are 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

• **Indian Springs** — Near Clarkston, nine miles northwest of Pontiac, the park is set on 2,173 acres at the headwaters of the Huron River. It features six miles of hiking-hiking

trails winding over hilly terrain. The park also features a picnic area and nature center. Hours are 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

• **Marshbank** — Six miles southwest of Pontiac, the 115-acre park is ideal for picnics, with stoves, tables, shelter, playground equipment, and wooded areas, overlooking Cass Lake. Swimming and boating are not permitted. Now open weekends, the park is open daily beginning Saturday.

• **Kensington** — Set on 4,330 acres near Milford-Brighton, it includes 1,200-acre Kent Lake, a haven for boaters, swimmers, sailors and fishermen. There are two launching ramps and boat rentals are available.

Water skiing is prohibited, there is a 10 mph boat-speed limit, and marine fuel is unavailable. Inhabiting the lake are bluegills, crappies, walleye, bass and pike. Two beaches offer bathhouses with dressing rooms, heated showers and food service.

The park also features picnic areas, most with playfields; an 18-hole golf course with cart rentals; six miles of hiking-hiking trails; nature trails; a nature center; Canadian geese on Kingfisher Lagoon; and canoeing on the Huron. Advance registration and a permit fee are required for canoe campsites.

Kensington also features the Island Queen, an 80-passenger sternwheeler making 45-minute tours of Kent Lake. Cost is \$1.75 for adults, \$1.25 for kids 15 and under, and \$1.25 for seniors age 62 and over. At the park's Farm Center, one can view a variety of farm animals.

Right-to-Life group backs Lucas' gubernatorial bid

The Right to Life of Michigan Political Action Committee endorsed William Lucas in the Republican gubernatorial primary.

The group's members voted to endorse Lucas, current Wayne County executive, at their May 14 board meeting.

Jane Muldoon, RLM-PAC chairman, said Lucas is the only one of the five Republican primary candidates capable of defeating Gov. James Blanchard.

In a recent letter to the Right to Life of Michigan board, Lucas wrote, "1988 is the year we have prayed for. This year we elect a governor who understands that the first responsibility of state government is to guarantee the right to life of all its citizens including the unborn."

Right to Life of Michigan says Medicaid pays for 18,600 elective abortions in Michigan each year, "at a cost to taxpayers of over \$6 million."

'Liability crisis' discussed

Skyrocketing liability insurance coverage for businesses and doctors is the subject of "The Liability Crisis in Michigan," a presentation by George Goggin, president of the Oakland County Bar Association, at noon Friday, May 30, at the Quality Inn of Pontiac.

The public is invited to the luncheon presentation, sponsored by the Oakland County Chamber of Commerce.

Advance reservation, \$10 each, is required. For more information, call 683-4747 or 644-1229.

1 of 8 has a marine engine

According to a market research survey by Champion Spark Plug Co., one of every eight U.S. families owns a marine engine and there are nearly 13 million boat engines in use in the nation.

By a large margin, the survey shows, boat owners' favorite use of their boat is for fishing.

Almost 82 percent of power boat owners participate in fishing, and

outboard engine owners say they spend 61 percent of their boating time in search of fish.

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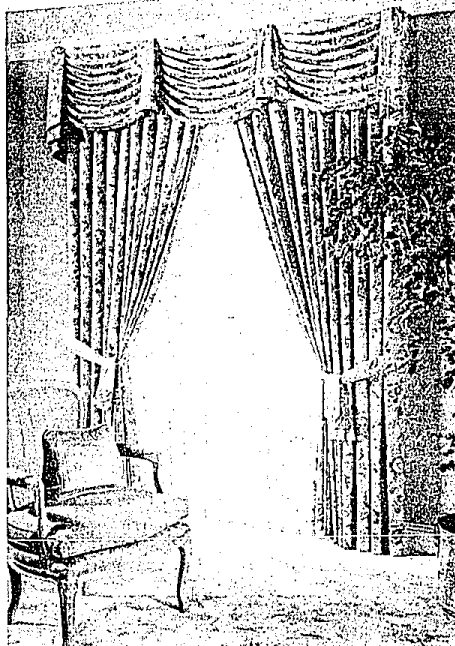
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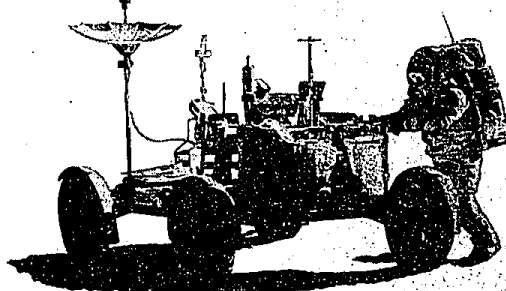
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