

Dargusch-Mattson

Mr. and Mrs. James Dargusch of Farmington Hills announce the engagement of their daughter Karen Irene to Keith P. Mattson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gary Mattson of Menominee.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of North Farmington High School and a student at Oakland University. She is employed as a YMCA gym instructor. Her fiancé is a graduate of Menominee High School, Menominee, Wis., and is employed as a computer operator for Marinette Marine Corp. in Marinette, Wis.

An April 1987 wedding is planned in Grace Episcopal Church, Menominee.



Letwinski-Hook

Mr. and Mrs. Michel Letwinski of Farmington Hills announce the engagement of their daughter Carrie Maria to Henry Hook Jr., son of Henry Hook Sr. of Detroit and Nancy Hook of Birmingham.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Farmington High School, employed with Key-Tech Graphics in Southfield. Her fiancé is a graduate of Groves High School in Birmingham, employed with Volk Corporation in Farmington Hills.

An August wedding is planned.



Galorneau-Gialmo

Lauren Elizabeth Galorneau of Livonia and Joseph Gialmo of Farmington plan a September wedding at Holy Name Catholic Church in Detroit.

She is the daughter of Russ and Pat Galorneau of Livonia. He is the son of Angelo and Rosalie Gialmo of Trenton.

The bride-to-be received a bachelor's degree in business administration from Central Michigan University. She is studying for a master's degree in information systems at Eastern Michigan University. She is employed as a systems analyst at William Beaumont Hospital.



Her fiancé received a bachelor's degree from Western Michigan University. He is enrolled in the master's degree in business administration program at the University of Michigan. He is employed as a quality engineer with United Technologies.

Rafters wanted for trip through the Grand Canyon

By Janice Brunson
staff writer

THIS SUMMER a group of Michiganders will partake of an adventure in Arizona that many Arizonians would love to share but can't.

The adventure is a 120 water-mile rafting trip down the Colorado River, through the magnificent Grand Canyon, nature's finest sculpture carved from centuries of geological formation.

Arizonians — or anybody else who expresses an interest in making the trip now — normally would have to wait a year or more before the opportunity arises.

In an effort to maintain the natural state of the canyon, tourism into the canyon, and river rafting in particular, has been increasingly limited the past two decades. Meanwhile, interest has soared. Waits of a year or more for available space and coveted federal permits are not unusual.

Dick Munson of Redford Township has such space in his possession — 30 spaces on a rafting trip, to be exact. Eighteen are filled, and he's looking for 12 more adventuresome souls to fill the others.

Munson, an earth science teacher at Thurston High School, will lead the six-day expedition down the river beginning Wednesday, July 16.

PLANNING WELL in advance, Munson has reserved two rafts. Each is capable of carrying 15 people. So far, 18 life science teachers, various family members and others interested in the experience have signed on at a cost of \$725 each.

This will be Munson's seventh descent into the canyon, an experience he describes as "fantastic," adding, "there aren't words enough to adequately describe it."

According to Munson, within the first hours on the water "raft riders" become seasoned at "shooting the rapids." Hance Rapids, he said, "is one big hole right at the start of the trip."

This is just the beginning. In the days that follow, Munson said, raft riders will shoot Lava Falls, rapids that drop 98 feet in 100 yards, and Crystal Rapids, formed as recently as 1986 from violent flash floods. "We will hit every major rapid."

On the trip raft riders will pass through myriad amazing natural wonders. Vasey's Paradise, where two spectacular springs shoot straight out the side of the canyon's scarlet wall; Redwall Cavern, large enough to seat 50,000 people; Havasu Canyon, 14 miles of "steps" sculpted by three gigantic waterfalls; and Elves Chasm, a series of seven waterfalls with pristine green pools.

THE ENTIRE trip will be narrated by Munson. He will explain, permit shale and supal sandstone, how they stain the entire canyon a scarlet patina, even the redwall limestone that is actually white in color but so named because of the red stain. Each passenger will be given a two-volume "River Log," published by Brigham Young University.

Munson has taught high school science courses for 30 years. In 1986 he earned a master's degree in earth sciences, a field that includes geology, astronomy, oceanography and meteorology.

He also was instrumental in founding the Life Science Teacher Association at both the state and national levels. He is a charter member of both groups and has led geological expeditions for each.

INTERESTED ADVENTURERS whether science teachers are not.

New minister is welcomed

The Rev. E. Neil Hunt has been called as the minister of Meadowbrook Church in Novi. The congregation voted unanimously to accept the recommendation of the Pulpit Committee.

Hunt comes to the Meadowbrook Church from North Congregational Church in Southfield, where he has been associate minister for the past three years. He will assume his duties at Meadowbrook Aug. 18.

are welcome on the expedition, Munson said. His only requirement is that children have previous camping experience.

By all accounts, rafting on the Colorado River is an experience that challenges the most adventuresome. Waves commonly measure up to 30 feet high in the rapids, and there are 200-odd sets of rapids. Ground temperatures of up to 125 degrees during the day are not unusual.

But injury or illness on a trip is extremely rare. In Munson's long association with the river, he has heard of only one death, and that was an experienced raft guide killed in a freak accident.

Rafts are driven by experienced guides, propelled by 20 horse-power engines. Meals are prepared by the guides, and everyone sleeps in bags on the ground.

The final thrill in the rafting adventure comes at the close of the trip, in a breathtaking journey when a helicopter ferries everyone out of the towering canyon, back to Lee's Ferry where it all started.

"Of the millions of people who see the Grand Canyon each year, few really see the actual working part of the canyon, the bottom," Munson said.

"Of that part of the canyon, on a scale of 1 to 10, it ranks an 11."

For more information on the trip this July, call 837-1795 or 937-3493 after 6 p.m. Munson said the group-rate price represents an individual savings of \$250. It does not include transportation to and from Arizona. Munson stressed final reservations must be made as soon as possible.

Graduate course credit from the trip may be earned through special arrangements with Michigan State University.

Observer staff writer Janice Brunson lived in Arizona for nine years and has made numerous trips to the canyon, including a visit to Supai Village, the home of the Havasupai Indians at the canyon's bottom. She has never made the rafting trip, but one of her dreams is to be able to take that trip one day.

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