

West Craven Noticeboard

YOUTH BASKETBALL

The Craven County Recreation and Parks Department is holding registration for youth ages seven through 18 from Vanceboro, James W. Smith and West Craven Middle schools. The league will consist of four divisions — mites, 7-9; midjets, 10-12; juniors, 13-15 and seniors, 16-18. Games will be played at Vanceboro and West Craven Middle School beginning in December. To sign up or for more information, call 636-6606.

ARCHERY

Learn and experience the challenge of archery. Craven County Recreation and Parks Department is seeking currently organizing archery classes in New Bern beginning this fall. Classes will be available for youth, adults and senior citizens. In interested in participating or for more information, contact Eddie Games at 636-6606.

WRESTLING

The Craven County Parks and Recreation Department will offer children's wrestling this year. Coaches are also needed. For more information, call the department at 636-6606 or Tom Marsh after 7 p.m. at 636-3344. The program will start in November.

DRIVERS NEEDED

Drivers are needed to transport people for the Council on Aging

from Vanceboro to appointments with doctors. Mileage will be paid. Contact Camille at 638-2118.

TRAVEL CLUB

Would you like to travel to do some out-of-town shopping, but need transportation? The YMCA Travel Club is planning an out-of-town trip to Jacksonville on Dec. 2. The YMCA van will leave the YMCA parking lot at 9 a.m. Please call 638-8799 to reserve a spot. A maximum of 10 spaces are available.

CUB SCOUTS

A Cub Scout pack will begin early this month on Monday afternoons. Boys in the first through third grades, volunteer leaders and committee members are needed. Contact Twin Rivers YMCA for more information at 638-8799.

YOUTH BASKETBALL

Youth basketball pre-registration is now being conducted for youth ages 5 through 12. Games will be on Saturday mornings beginning Jan. 7. Call or come by the Twin Rivers YMCA at 638-8799 to pre-register a child.

SEEK-A-SENIOR

The Twin Rivers YMCA Seek-A-Senior program is a referral service promoting odd-job employment of active older adults who are 55-years-old or older by com-

munity members needing work done at reasonable rates. Call the YMCA at 638-8799 to find resources for hiring seniors to do such work as maintenance and repair, sewing, house-sitting and babysitting.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

The Craven County Recreation and Parks Department is sponsoring a men's basketball league for the 1988-89 season. All games will be played at J.T. Barber Junior High School. For more information, call Carol Baker at 636-6606 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays.

HOOP CLINIC

A youth basketball clinic will be held Dec. 17 at Twin Rivers YMCA. New Bern Senior High School basketball coach Art Paschal and his players will help in the boys' clinic, ages 5-12 from 9 to 11 a.m. Kim Briel, WCTI sports reporter, will be on hand for the girls' clinic from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for girls ages 9-12. To register for the clinic by Jan. 7, contact the YMCA at 638-8799.

SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

Some 2,000 luminaries will give a seasonal glow to Oriental during its third annual "Spirit of Christmas." The Dec. 10 event will begin with a parade, featuring and band floats, at 5 p.m. The parade will travel along the candlelit streets of the town. Santa will arrive and be avail-

able to children until 9 p.m. Choral groups, a bell choir, a living nativity and puppet shows will be featured and will be free. The events will end at 9 p.m.

FALL PROGRAMS

The Twin Rivers YMCA began the second session of fall programs Oct. 31. Programs will include low impact aerobics, CAM II fitness classes, small-fry gymnastics (ages 2-5 years), after-school gymnastics (ages 5-14 years), men's 4-on-4 basketball, basic exercise and stretching and more. Please call the YMCA at 638-8799 to pre-register for more information.

CIVIL WAR EXHIBIT

The New Bern Historical Society is sponsoring a special exhibit of Civil War, also known as the War Between the States, at the Attmore-Oliver House Museum through Dec. 18. The exhibit is open from 1 to 4:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Fridays. A fee is charged.

BASKETBALL COACHES

Youth basketball coach volunteers needed two two days a week between 4 and 6 p.m. Knowledge of basketball skills and genuine interest in children required. Contact Twin Rivers YMCA at 638-8799 for more information on these coaching positions.

Bassin' with the pros



Fall months are a good time to be up a creek, especially if you're after largemouth bass.

"In September and October bass are becoming more active, and if I want to find them in a hurry, I head to the creeks," explains Johnson Outboards Pro Staff member Charile Reed. "Fish tend to bunch in large schools this time of year as they feed on shad, and it's possible to catch a lot of fish in a short period of time."

"The advantage of fishing a creek," Reed continues, "is that you're concentrating your efforts in a relatively small area. You can fish quickly and cover a lot of water."

Before he heads to any new lake he hasn't been on before, Reed carefully studies a map to find a tributary creek he wants to fish. This saves him precious time and effort, for once he launches he can go directly to his chosen spot.

"My first requirement for a tributary creek is that it have a well-defined channel," says Reed. "I do not like to fish silted channels or shallow water that has no current. A good map will show channel banks and water depths, so I can eliminate a lot of creeks without actually seeing them."

Reed's next basic requirement for a late summer/early autumn creek is that it have vegetation in it. Some maps will show this, but more often, Reed has to find it by on-the-water exploration.

"Bass will hold in vegetation anytime," he says. "In fact, I believe bass will by-pass other forms of cover, such as boat houses, treetops or brush just to utilize vegetation. The fish like the oxygen, the protection and the shade vegetation provides."

When there is no vegetation, Reed looks for stumps along the bends of the creek channel. Sometimes the stumps will be visible from the surface, but more often, the Johnson Outboards pro finds them with a depthfinder. Bass may be in the stumps but frequently Reed locates them along the outside edge of the cover in slightly deeper water.

Water clarity and temperature are two more factors Reed studies before he finally decides on a creek. If he has to fish cooler water, he wants it also to be clear.

If the water is warm, he wants it to be stained or colored.

"Normally, I ease into a creek and just look and study the water, structure and cover," explains Reed, "especially if I haven't fished it before. Basically, I'm trying to 'read' the water, looking at a lot of different things that help tell me where bass might be under the existing conditions."

"I'll continue up the creek until I reach really shallow water, then turn and fish my way back out."

At this time of year, Reed's favorite lure choices include topwater plugs and buzz baits, and shallow-running crankbaits. In most instances, he will begin by casting a surface lure.

"You can learn a lot about the mood of bass when they strike a topwater lure," says Reed, "and they'll certainly hit one this time of year. If you catch fish with the topwater lure, you're on target, but if you keep missing fish, it's probably because the bass don't really want that lure just then."

When this happens, Reed quickly changes to one of the shallow running minnow-imitation crankbaits, which he twitches just under the surface. He works the lure in quick, erratic darts around the grass or stumps, making the lure look like an injured baitfish.

"The shallow, minnow-imitation crankbaits, which we usually call 'jerk baits,' are probably among the most effective lures this time of year," says Reed. "The bass are beginning to feed more and more on minnows and these lures really do imitate them well, both in appearance and action."

Woodmen Of World Will Meet Dec. 3

ERNUL — The Woodmen of the World chapter in Ernul will hold its annual Awards Night at 7 p.m. Dec. 3 at the Woodmen of the World lodge in Ernul.

New officers will also be installed at the event. Light refreshments will be served.

Down East Cooking

By REBA W. MITCHELL

Breads, cakes, cookies and many other goodies are a great part of our thoughts concerning food around the holiday season. Many people like to bake all through the winter season. The aroma of baking bread when you come in out of the cold is very welcome.

Quick breads and muffins are very quick and easy to prepare. Fruits can add something special to breads and make meals more interesting. These fruity muffins are great for snacks also.

Hawaiian Banana-Nut Bread

1/2 cup shortening

- 1 cup sugar
- 2 eggs
- 3 mashed ripe bananas
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 3/4 tsp. baking soda
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 cup chopped macadamia nuts or pecans

Cream shortening, gradually add sugar and beat well at medium speed. Add eggs, one at a time, beating after each addition. Stir in bananas.

Combine flour and remaining ingredients and add to creamed mixture, stir just to blend.

Spoon batter into a greased and floured loaf pan (9-by-5-by-3). Bake until a wooden toothpick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool in loaf pan for 10 minutes and remove from pan and cool on a rack.

Apple Pancakes

- 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 tsp. baking soda
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1 lbs. sugar
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1 cup buttermilk
- 1 lbs. melted margarine
- 1 large peeled, cored and shredded apple
- 1/4 tsp. cinnamon

Combine first four ingredients in a large bowl. Combine egg, buttermilk and margarine and add to flour mixture and stir until moist. Combine apples, 2 tsp. sugar and cinnamon and stir into pancake batter and mix well. Pour 1/4 cup batter on a hot griddle for each pancake. Turn pancakes when tops are covered with bubbles and edges looked cooked.

Pineapple Muffins

- 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 tsp. baking soda
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup chopped nuts
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1 8-oz. can crushed pineapple, undrained
- 1/2 cup melted margarine
- 1/4 cup and 1 lbs. milk
- 1 tsp. vanilla

Combine first five ingredients in a large bowl and make a well in center of mixture. Combine egg and remaining ingredients, add mixture to dry ingredients, stirring just to moisten. Spoon batter into paper-lined muffin pans, filling two-thirds full. Bake at 400 degrees for 20 to 22 minutes. Remove from pan at once.

Oatmeal-Blueberry Muffins

- 1 1/4 cups quick oats
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 lbs. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 egg, beaten
- 3/4 cup buttermilk
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 1/4 cup honey
- 3/4 cups thawed blueberries

Combine first four ingredients in a large bowl and make a well in center of mixture. Combine eggs and next three ingredients and add to dry ingredients. Stir until moist. Fold in blueberries. Spoon into greased muffin pans, filling two-thirds full. Bake at 375 degrees for 25 to 30 minutes. Remove from pans at once.

Along The Pathway

Along the pathway of life we are entering the Advent season again. It is really the beginning of the Christmas season. The Christmas season is a wonderful time of the year. It is the time we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, the precious son of God. Just think how much God loves us. He loves us so much that he sent his only son to this earth as the poorest of them as a gift to pay our debt of sin. He lived here on this earth as a man among the people. He preached and taught the word, performed miracles and was persecuted and yet he did not sin. From the manger to the cross, he was perfect. That is the reason we can have the great hope that we have today.

That great savior came and was born in a manger. Mary, his mother, was a poor peasant girl, yet she was chosen by God to be the mother of this special child that is the savior of the world. She was found with child, conceived of the Holy Ghost. Therefore, he was of divine birth because it was not the will of the flesh but of the spirit. He is God's own son. Joseph was just a man. He obeyed God and took Mary as his wife and knew her not until she brought forth her first born son. Therefore, our savior was born of a virgin.

When he was born in this world as a baby in a manger, he was that precious hope born in the flesh in a wicked world. Because he came in the flesh, lived among men in the flesh and died a shameful death on the cross we can have that great eternal hope where there will be no more sorrow. He died on the cross to pay a debt that we all owed and could not pay; a debt he did not owe. We can look for him to return to this earth, and as he promised he will not fail.

As the Advent wreath is started it is a good time to remember as we place the first candle representing hope on the wreath that this hope we have in the Lord Jesus is real. There is no time too tough for Jesus to keep you, with hope alive in your heart if you have put all your trust in him.

There is peace, strength and hope when the storm clouds are hanging low. I know, because as I write this article the storm clouds are hanging low over my family. Our brother has been missing since last Sunday. The hours seem dark, yet I know God is the master. Why things happen like this, I know not. But one thing I know, there will come a pay day. I know the one responsible for all this will meet it again someday. But we that are faithful until the end will one day find our hope is fulfilled. Won't that be a wonderful day?

Hope

Do you have hope? Do you have hope for eternity? Because of that baby born so long ago in a manger, There is hope for all beyond life's stormy sea. He came to bring hope to you, to me, yes, hope for all. There is hope, if we will only trust in him. There is hope for all that will answer his call. There is a light that will never grow dim. On the wreath as you place the candle of hope, Remember the one that to this earth for us came. You don't have to feel you're at the end of the rope. Jesus is, yes he is, as he promised every day the same. Hold on to hope, hold on, don't give up. All Jesus has promised he will surely do. If you will let him he will fill your cup. So, let us hope in him as this journey we pursue.

— Reba W. Mitchell

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