

School ski club growing by leaps and bounds here

The Tupper Lake Middle School/High School Ski Club gets bigger with each passing year.

That was the message from Club Advisor Louise Lanthier and two of her young club members at Monday night's board of education meeting.

Mrs. Lanthier, a local teacher, said her club activities will begin for the new season in January with trips to Titus and Whiteface mountains each weekend. During the club's short history, nearly 600 students have been given the opportunity to ski at nearby ski areas, she told the board.

The club visits Titus Mt. on Friday nights during the winter and the members ski Whiteface many Sundays. Each year in recent year the club finishes the season with a weekend trip to a Vermont ski area.

This year the number of participants is expected to grow by 28% over last year, which saw a 30% increase over the previous year, according to Mrs. Lanthier.

"It continues to amaze me just how popular this program is. There is just so much enthusiasm for it among the students!"

She told the board members that the single limiting factor in the program's growth is that the single bus provided by the district to transport the club to the nearby ski areas has only seating for 44 people.

"Any chance of a second bus?" she asked the board members at one point.

The way the program works, the club members pay for their own ski tickets, and the district furnishes a passenger bus and driver and a smaller and older equipment bus which volunteers drive.

There is so much equipment involved, it wouldn't be safe to carry it with the club members on the passenger bus, Mrs. Lanthier explained this week.

Eleventh grader Josh Scranton, who was one of the first students to join the club when he was in eighth grade, called it "a great program that many students enjoy."

He admitted that he is the first person to enroll in the club each year- and that through it he has made many friends.

He applauded Mrs. Lanthier for the savings on ski tickets she is able to negotiate with the ski center operators for her members, adding that without those reduced rates it would be impossible for many students to afford the tickets. "The ski club is my ticket to Whiteface!" he told the board.

Camille Gibeault, a petite ninth grader who first joined the club when she was in sixth grade, echoed many of Josh's comments about the excellent program here.

"Each year I hand in my parents' permission slip the first day of sign-up!" she told the board.

"We all like the ski club. -And it's really good for us, because many of us don't play winter sports."

She told the board that in her first year in the club sometimes there were not many girls to ski with, "so I skied with the guys!"

Mrs. Lanthier said the club activities would not be possible without the help of many parental volunteers. One of them, Robert Gibeault, was in attendance that evening.

From a pool of maybe a dozen parents, there are always at least six on any given trip, she noted.

"Fortunately we have lots of parents to chaperone and help us," the teacher told the board.



Ninth grader Camille Gibeault spoke to the Tupper Lake Board of Education Monday night about the enthusiasm members have for the Tupper Lake Ski Club. Camille was accompanied by her club advisor, Louise Lanthier and her father, Robert, both shown behind her and club member Josh Scranton, not shown.

Curling league to begin this Friday

Newcomers very welcome

The Tupper Lake Curling League will commence this Friday evening, December 5 at 6:30p.m., at which time teams will be formed.

An organizational meeting in early November at P-2's Irish Pub produced enough interest and new blood to enable us to run the program another winter, Dan McClelland, league president reports this week.

At least a half dozen new people here want to join the curling program which runs on Friday nights at 7:15p.m. throughout the winter months. About 18 veteran curlers are returning this year.

So far there are about two dozen people prepared to

curl this year. There is room for another ten or 12 people to completely fill an eight-team league, Mr. McClelland noted.

On the evenings of December 5 and 12, we'll devote some time to teaching the newcomers the fundamentals of the growing sport, he said.

Some of the returning curlers will be forming their own four- or five-person teams. Those not on a team by December 5 will be placed on one during the brief organizational meeting.

Anyone who would like to learn to curl and join the league should attend Friday's session.

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Handel's Messiah

A Community Sing hosted by
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**Sunday, December 14
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Refreshments to follow concert
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Donations Appreciated!
All proceeds will support upcoming TLAC events and scholarships for more information, call Beth Johnson at 359-2652

Kavanagh earns Master's

Shannon M. Kavanagh, a resident of Tupper Lake has earned a Master of Arts, Liberal Studies from Excelsior College.

Excelsior College (www.excelsior.edu) is an accredited, private, nonprofit institution that focuses on the needs of working adults. Its primary mission is to increase access to a college degree for adult learners by removing obstacles to their educational goals. Excelsior's unique strengths lie in its acknowledged leadership in the assessment of student knowledge. It does so by providing working adults multiple avenues to degree completion that include its own online courses and college-level proficiency

examinations, and the acceptance of credit in transfer from other colleges and universities.

Interfaith Council invites all women

The Interfaith Lay Council of Tupper Lake wishes to extend an invitation to women of all faiths for an evening of music, scripture, poetry and reflection on Sunday, December 7 at St. Thomas Church, 8 Brentwood Ave.

A potluck supper will follow. Please bring a salad or light main dish to share. Dessert and beverages and place settings will be provided.

For more information contact Gloria Hare, 359-7804.

DEC intervenes

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to intercede at the appellate level only, against the wishes of the Town of Tupper Lake!"

"What is more disgusting is that Mr. Gibson and his group were able to convince the DEC to work against the locals. This goes against all notions of local government and home rule!" He said the DEC officials should be ashamed of themselves.

He said DEC spokeswoman Severino admitted "her agency doesn't do this very often, although they have done it in some cases" in the past.

"This is an embarrassment to not only the taxpayers of this state, but to the commissioner of the DEC!" he asserted yesterday.

Mr. Maroun said he was confident the Third Appellate Division will uphold the lower court's decision and support the Town of Tupper Lake in its quest to bring economic opportunity to this region.

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<p>2008 Nissan Titan Crew Cab, V8, PW, PL, AC, Cruise, Tilt, 4x4, 11,665 miles \$24,900*</p>	<p>2009 Nissan Murano S V6, AWD, Alloys, CD, PW, PL, Cruise, 3,202 miles \$24,900*</p>	<p>2006 Hummer H3 Leather, 4x4, PW, PL, Pwr. Seat, 5 Cyl., 32,065 miles \$22,900*</p>
<p>2009 Mitsubishi Galant ES Alloys, Pwr. Windows, Locks, AC, Cruise, Tilt, 12,497 miles \$18,900*</p>	<p>2008 Volkswagen Jetta 2.5 Auto, 5 Cyl., Pwr. Windows, Locks, AC, Cruise, 16,209 miles \$19,900*</p>	<p>2008 Volkswagen Passat 2.0 Turbo, Auto, Alloys, Leather, Pwr. Seat, Window, Locks, CD, 20,396 miles \$20,900*</p>

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