



County Library Faces Possible Closure

by Jenni Ritzler

The Alpena County Library has launched its annual fund drive beginning November 9.

Each year the library has appealed for funds to help finance library service. This year the need is far greater than in past years, according to Roger Mendel, director.

The library will experience a \$10,500 shortfall for the 1982 budget year unless sufficient funds are raised. Increased costs for utilities, insurance and other operating expenses plus decreased revenues account for the projected shortage of funds, Mendel said.

The library's major sources of income which have been reduced include: Penal fines (District Court fines) and state aid. Mendel said that book fines are also down \$1,000 from last year's figures.

Reductions have already taken effect in efforts to keep the library open. Library hours have been reduced by 4.5 hours a week; the staff has been reduced and staff hours have been changed from 35 hours a week to 30. Mendel added that there have not been any salary increases for the staff since 1981.

Without sufficient revenue, Mendel said, the library may close its doors in December and reopen after the first of the year. If this closure does occur, the public will have to look to other sources, i.e., the Alpena Community College Library and other libraries in the public school system. According to Mendel, these sources would probably not fulfill the many needs of adult readers.

With over 12,000 registered borrowers, the director noted that if every library card holder donated one dollar, this would keep the library open.

All donations to the library are

tax deductible as well as qualifying for a special income tax credit on state income tax returns, Mendel said.

He said a Friends of the Library meeting is scheduled for November 17 at 7:30 p.m. at the library. The library's financial condition will be a topic of discussion and the meeting is open to the public.

Spring Trip Set

by Debbie Specht

How does a vertical-loop coaster, a dolphin show, a trip down main street, plus plenty of sunshine and warm climate sound? Tempting? Well, you can enjoy this and much more in Florida.

When Spring break rolls around next year, a group of people will be on their way on the sunshine trip to Florida. The group is scheduled to depart from Alpena on Friday, February 16 and arrive back on Sunday, February 27. Two price package is \$399.

The trip includes a whole schedule of activities. Nashville, the site of the Grand Old Opry, will be presenting an evening performance of country and western singers. In Florida the group will go to such places as Busch Gardens, Sea World, Disney World or E.P.C.O.T., and even on an Escape Cruise from Port Canaveral. There will even be time to get a tan at Daytona Beach.

A meeting for the trip to Florida will be held on November 23 in Room 102 of VLH at 2 p.m. Deadline for registering for the trip is November 23. Any questions about the trip should be directed to Frank McCourt.

tions for Pell Grants. In addition, Congress set aside 30 million dollars to be used nationally to meet the needs of the program.

Veterans who were denied Pell Grants this fall can now reapply under the present guidelines. Payments will be retroactive to cover fall semester, according to Max Lindsay, Director of Financial Aid at Alpena Community College. Lindsay is now in the process of recalculating applications. Questions concerning individual benefits can be directed to him.

New Class Helps Critical Thinking

by Lynn Lightner

"One morning, exactly at sunrise, a Buddhist monk began to climb a tall mountain. A narrow path, no more than a foot or two wide, spiraled around the mountain to a glittering temple at the summit. The monk ascended at varying rates of speed, stopping many times along the way to rest and eat dried fruit he carried with him. He reached the temple shortly before sunset. After several days of fasting and meditation he began his journey back along the same path, starting at sunrise and again walking at variable speeds with many pauses along the way. His average speed descending was, of course, greater than his average climbing speed. Prove that there is a spot along the path that the monk will occupy on both trips at precisely the same time of day."

Puzzled? Well, if you are, the

'Slave' Auction Held at Dorm

by Jeannette Licavoli

Do I hear a bid? Going once, going twice, sold! At the traditional RHA Slave Auction held Nov. 8th at Russell Wilson Dormitory, "slaves" were auctioned off to the highest bidder for one hour of hard labor.

Doug Field, a resident of the dormitory, served as the auctioneer for the event. He kept the buyers on their toes with his quick professional sounding lingo.

The lowest starting bid began with Mary Henkel at one penny who was then sold for \$4.25. Frank McCourt was sold to Virgil Stoltz for \$10.00 and in turn, Frank bought Virgil for \$16.25. Later in the auction, Fred Thompson, Rich Matzke, Robert Shank, Bob Kelly and Jessie Goins were up for sale to one buyer. Bidders were sweating it out as the price was rapidly shooting up. But ultimately they bought themselves for the highest going bid of the evening; \$30.50.

President of RHA Pat Joyce organized the activity, in which a total of \$136.25 dollars was raised for the club. Another slave auction will be held sometime in December. Watch for schedule and date in the Splinter. Everyone is welcome to come and participate.

Language and Reason course offered next semester could help you figure out problems like this in no time at all.

The Language and Reason course was available this semester to Interdisciplinary Studies students only. However, in response to a faculty desire to see more students taking such a course, it is now open next semester to any interested student.

Mr. Terry Hall, the Language and Reason instructor, believes, as do many teachers here at ACC, that this type of critical thinking course can be of great help to students going into any type of field. Whether the field be math, science, computers, or English, the problem solving, critical thinking and language comprehension skills which this course is designed to develop are invaluable.

Not only will you be able to figure out the exact spot to which a Buddhist monk occupies at precisely the same time of day in two different trips, but you will also become a better reader and a better writer.

Research on courses such as this one has shown that a learning of problem solving skills can have a great effect on IQ level. The IQ increase after developing critical thinking skills often ranges anywhere from 10 to even 30 points higher.

Interdisciplinary Program Holds Open House

by Christy Preseau

An open house was held for the families of the students who are involved in the Interdisciplinary Studies Program on November 5.

Approximately 150 guests attended the open house and were engaged in a variety of events throughout the evening.

Staff members Terry Hall and Bart Boyer had conferences with the parents about their students. They discussed how they felt the student had changed since they have been involved in the Interdisciplinary Studies Program. The guests were also able to see the students at work

(Continued on Page 3)

Veterans Still Eligible for Grants

by Jackie Timm

Student veterans will benefit from a congressional veto of the fiscal budget 1982.

This fall financial aid for veterans applying for Pell Grants was based on full veteran education benefits. This was a change from the calculations of the formula of the last two years. Consequently many veterans formerly eligible became ineligible for Pell Grants.

When the appropriations bill was over ruled, stipulations in the formula allowed veterans to one third of their benefits as a basis for calcula-