

outdoors

Duck hunters plan Mouillee tourney

By Lam Meese staff writer

The 34th annual Michigan Duck Hunters Tournament and Midwest Decoy contest will begin Sunday morning, Sept. 20, at Pointe Mouillee State Game Area headquarters, which fronts on the Huron River near where it flows into Lake Erie.

Registration for water events ends at 10 a.m. Registration for the duck calling championship, open to contestants age 14 and up from both Canada and the United States, closes at 1:30 p.m.

Winner will vie in the world contest held in Arkansas, according to tournament chairman Hy Dahika.

The decoy contest runs Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 19-20. Decoys must be registered by 9:30 a.m. Saturday, and judging starts at 10.

FALL FLOWERS is the theme of a family nature walk in the Kensington Metropark nature center near Millford at 10 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 20. Naturalist Mark Szabo will conduct the 1½-2 hour walk. Call the nature center at 685-1561 to register in advance.

Szabo will also conduct a later program called "Nature at Night," an invitation to Fall" at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 22. The program will consist of a leisurely 90-minute stroll along woodland trails. Call the number above for registration.

A 45-a-person fishing trip, limited to 40 anglers, will be 6-10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 19, aboard the "Island Queen" excursion boat on Kent Lake in Kensington Metropark. For registration, call the park office.

TEAMS of one adult and one child related by family will participate in "Fishing for Fun" day 9 a.m. to noon Sept. 19 at Independence Oaks County Park in Clarkston.

Anglers youngest, oldest, catching the most and catching the longest will receive awards. Bring your own tackle and bait and meet at the boathouse on Crooked Lake.

Coffee and doughnuts will be served and pre-registration ends Sept. 11. Registration fee is \$5 a pair. Call Teresa Fortino at the county parks office 858-0916 for registration.

The park is on Sasabaw Road, 2.5 miles north of I-75.

FALL HAYRIDES aboard a new hay wagon are available 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sundays at the Farm Center at the north end of Kensington Metropark near Millford. The ride is \$1 for adults and 50 cents for kids and senior citizens.

Evening hayrides from 6-9 p.m. are available for one or more hours in groups up to 25 at a charge of \$50 an hour Tuesday through Sunday.

Call the park office at 685-1561 to make arrangements.

NOW THAT hunting season is nearly upon us and firearms shooters may be venturing out in the woods to improve marksmanship, you might be interested to know that Sigldons' Inc., a Wisconsin firm which markets Meggs fishing lures, will pay 10 to 18 cents each for squirrel tails depending on quality and quantity. Contact the company at 626 Center Street, Antigo, Wis., 54409 (715-623-2382) for more information.



Six feet tall, Rudy Fedus is dwarfed by the 11-foot-tall in-corn at Greenmead.

Rudy's a beauty at bringing in the sheaves

By Marie McGee staff writer

When it comes to growing things, most folks are lucky to have one green thumb.

Then there's Rudy Fedus — Livonia's man for all soils. In his case, it's more like both thumbs plus eight fingers.

This gardener extraordinaire is probably best known for his horticultural wizardry at nearby Cranbrook. Over the years, practically the whole country has been treated to periodic glimpses of his accomplishments at the noted institutional setting in photos and stories appearing in several publications, including Time-Life.

THE LATEST kudos came in the September issue of Flower and Gardens magazine where the Cranbrook gardens were called "one of the great gardens in the U.S."

Statewide recognition for his work in creating the five Cranbrook gardens won Rudy a "Keep Michigan Beautiful" award several years ago.

The Oriental tufa rock gardens there are an amazing feat in themselves. "No other place in Michigan will you find the complete grouping of miniature evergreens that have in the Cranbrook gardens," said Sally Riemschneider, Bloomfield Hills resident who was Cranbrook's first garden chairman and is still active in the garden auxiliary.

ONE FACT TO keep in mind, she added, is that all of work was done on a volunteer basis by Rudy and others who were soon drawn to the project. "Cranbrook would not have what it has today if it wasn't for Rudy Fedus," Mrs. Riemschneider said. "When we first started out, we had no one to advise us. Rudy furnished the expertise we needed. Rudy loves to enlighten people. No one goes home, after working with him, without knowing something he didn't before he started."

He also loves to share. From his own unique garden, he brought the nucleus for the now famous tufa rock gardens that have brought lavish

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COLLECTORS AUCTION

Rare Nasturium floor lamp created by Louis Comfort Tiffany.

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