

Daniel Lowes pauses for a moment beside the pool at the Farm-Ington Area YMCA.

## YMCA offers summer of fun

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"It blink the first thing we hope they get is fun," Brooks said. "Id say fun, friendship, some new skills, and a look at their values. That's one of the things that's really important to us." The Farmington Area YMCA also offers child care before and after they camp hours, which is used by a number of working parents. "We do provide child care before and after camp." Brooks said. "The number of working parents in the community, I think, is really growing. We have a lot of kids who are signed up for the whole summer."

Probably about 40 percent of the kids aummer, or a good part of the summer, or a good part of the summer, or a signed up for the weak instance in the summer fun. The ONE-WEEK day camp sessions cost \$50 for members and \$45 for non-members, for the PAL Camp, the cost is \$30 for non-members for Summer Fun. For the PAL Camp, the cost is \$30 for non-members of the summer. The one-members and \$45 for non-members and \$45 for non-members and \$45 for non-members. The one-members and \$45 for non-members and \$45 for non-members. The one-members and \$45 for non-members and \$45 for non-members. The one-members and \$45 for non-members. The one-members and \$45 for non-members and \$45 for non-members and \$45 for non-members and \$45 for non-members and \$45 for non-members. The one-members and \$45 for non-members and \$45 for non-members and \$45 for non-members. The one-members and \$45 for non-members and \$45 for non-members and \$45 for non-members. The one-members and \$45 for non-members and \$45 for non-members and \$45 for non-members and \$45 for non-members and \$45 for non-members. The one-members and \$45 for non-members and \$45 for non-members and \$45 for non-members and \$45 for non-members and \$45 for non-members. The one-members and \$45 for non-members and \$45 for non-members



; retirement memos

Margaret Miller

# The fireworks came close

The fireworks came well ahead of July 4 to our retirement area. Not as sparklers booming and falling in pastel sprays. These were a far more serious variety of fiery tongues.

Joe and I never did see these fire-works. But we smelled them a couple of nights, and that was plenty close enough.

I'm referring, of course, to the brush fires that made national headlines by burning through thousands of acres near here (Sarasota, Fla.) during three days and nights in June.

AN AREA NORMALLY framed for its lush greeness, Florida has been getting drier and drier with 18 consecutive months of less-than normal rainfall. The last few months have been dry enough to bring on stiff water conservation measures.

Late winter saw several brush fires in scattered areas. They were reported to be the work of arsonists. Mainly they were in empty areas, but a few homes were damaged.

We read the newspaper reports of the fire fighting, along with continuing reports of dryness and conservation regulations. But the burning issue seemed quite distant.

THEN WE HAD a big thunderstorm one night. It was loud and flashy and, though it didn't bring much rain right where we were, we figured there probably was more in other areas and anyway every little bit would belp.

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Turned out, though, that that particu-lar storm brought very little rain. But bolts of lightning started several new fires. Some were just east of Sarasota. Much nearer home.

During the three days they burned, good efforts by fire-fighters kept them more or less contained and not threatening to us. Later, it was reported they were ecologically beneficial, since they burned off a large quantity of dry underbrush.

Still, it was a disquieting situation. The smell of smoke hung in the air and was particularly noticeable at night.

RAIN FINALLY CAME and lasted

RAIN FINALLY CAME and lasted several hours, so those flames were effectively doused. But there has been little rainfall since and we keep getting intender and lightning without much moisture.

Florida's annual rainy season is again alow to arrive. The water shortage goes on; restrictions continue. Those who would pater lawns must do it between 4 and 7 a.m. two mornings a work.

Indications are that water conserva-tion will be with the area for some time to come. But I hope the smoke-scented nights are finished. I much prefer 4th of July fireworks.

Margaret Miller was Suburban Life editor for Observer Newspa-pers for 18 years. She and her hus-band Joe have retired to Florida, where she writes Retirement Memos.



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Have a Safe and Happy 4th of July. Holiday Shopping Hours are 11 am to 4 pm.

### Autograph Session

Ernie Harwell will be autographing copies of his latest book, "Tuned To Baseball." Friday, July 12, 12 to 2 pm, West Mall.



#### LIVONIA RIBCRACKERS

A local club dedicated to the skill and excitement of flying radio controlled aircraft. They will have their planes on display, and club members will be present to answer questions. Sat & Sun, July 13 & 14, Center Court.

### LIFESTYLE SEMINAR

The Detroit Free Press is presenting a fashion video and a discussion on how high fashion relates to our lifestyles. Guest speakers are Nancy Kelly, Promotion Research Specialist and Connie DiCicco, Rotall Advertising Account Executive. Refreshments will be served. The Seminar is free but reservations are necessary. Make yours now by calling 425-5001. Tues, July 16, 10 to 11 am, Auditorium in the Emporlum.



Bargains, Bargains and the sights and sounds of a Turn-of-the-Century Street Fair, as Westland Center has its Summer Sidewalk Sale. Thur - Sun, July 18 - 21.

#### **MUSTANG SHOW**

The Mustang Owners Club of Southeastern Michigan will have an exhibit of 1964 to 1973 Mustangs, as well as a new, 1985, Anniversary Mustang celebrating 20 years of Mustangs. Sat, July 27, Central Court,

### Children's Auditions

audition will be held to find models for An audition will be field to find models for Westland Center's August Back to School Fashlon Show. Any young person through the age of 21 is invited to try out. Toddlers must be able to walk the runway unaided. Each faild must bring a photo, which will not be returned. The models chosen will also receive a commemora-tive photo and custom T-shirt from the Detroit Free Press. Sun, July 28. Registration - 11:30 to 2 pm. Audition begins at Noon, Central Court.

### **WESTLAND CENTER**

35000 W. Warren, Westland 425-5001