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"It was our problem, so we had to take care of it," he said.
Youngs Environmental, a Flint company that specializes in has-ardous materials, was brought in to help identify the chemicals necessarily and the entire the compose three that were not explosive. But the Detroit Folice Department Bomb Equad saved the day.
"Most agencies we talked to did not want to get involved," Eladwin said. "This was a life-threatening situation that they could have walked away from, and they didn't." In addition to the six-member bomb squad, agents from the federal Bursau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms and the Environmental Protection Agency helped with the operation.
After the chemicals were separated, the bomb squad put that no

rated, the bomb squad put them in a special truck and, with a police escort, drove to an open area



Explosive situation: Above, members of the Detroit Police Bomb Squad prepare to remove the dangerous chemicals from a house on Glengrove in Farmington Hills. At left, Wally Kurzeja, a Farmington Hills firefighter and member of the Western Wayne County Hazardous Materials Team, is dressed for duty.

on the west side of Founders Sports Park where the chemicals were detonated at about 11:30

p.m. Lt. Mike Garr of the Hills Fire Department said 1-275 had to be closed off at around 9 p.m. and a route that did not involve overpasses had to be used.

"With all the police cars, a lot of people asked if the president was in town," Garr said.

Hills Police Chief Bill Dwyer praised the Detroit bomb squad and other police agencies for their help.

Dwyer said the city offices, po-lice and fire departments had many callers complaining about detonating the chemicals at the park, but said it was the best al-ternative.

"We found the safest environ-ment in which to detonate explo-sives," he said.
Youngs was at the park Friday to test the soll where the chemi-cals were exploded and remove any contaminated soil.

Baldwin said the EPA gave its OK and supervised the operation.

He added that it doesn't appear that the estranged husband real-ized the chemicals were as dan-gerous as they were.

"He had taken them there him-self," Baldwin said, adding that the man had to move them from a house his mother was selling. "At least he didn't throw them away."

Baldwin praised the bomb squad for professionalism and co-operation.

operation.
"I think it turned out as well as could be expected," he said. "No-body was hurt or killed."



## **Plane**

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"I would say their care was ex-cellent," said Aranosian. "They were very lucky." Kowalewski, a clerical worker

Kowalewski, a ciercus wonact at an insurance agency, was among a handful of area residents who immediately tried to assist the plane crash victims. "They were in pain," ahe said.

who immediately tried to static the plane crash victims.

"They were in pain," as a said.

"They were paying their backs hurt. So I knew if we moved them, we'd burt them."

She and people like Jeffrey Thurston, another lake resident, used floatation devices to keep the heads of the victims above water and their body weight off their spines and injured limbs. Thurston, a truck driver, was vatching his grandson at his home at Pontiac Lake when he heard the plane sputtering over-head. "I knew something was vrong," he said, "so I runde out to see if it might isand on the house. I saw it go into the lake, and I waded out to see if I could help."

and I waded out to see if I could help.

Thurston said each of the men was conscious when he got to the wreckage, "and they were acreaming in pain." EMS units were on the scene within five minutes of the crash, he said.

Rappeport was an experienced pilot who have flown with his passengers on numerous occasions, according to police. The plane was en route to Oshkoba, Wis., where the 42nd Fly-in and Air Show of the Experimental Aircraft Association is in progress.





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