

## Golfers Sought for Make-a-Wish Outing Slated for Sunday

The U.S. Marines might still be looking for a few good men, but bartender extraordinaire Nicole Beardslee of Lake Orion Applebee's sure could use a few extra golfers for a charity event.

Beardslee is the organizer of Applebee's/Make a Wish charity golf outing on Aug. 26, at the Myth Golf - Banquets course in Oakland Twp. from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Right now, she has more spaces than golfers and she's looking for some local duffers to sign up at the last minute to benefit the Make A Wish charity.

Interested golfers, or corporate sponsors, contact Beardslee on her at 248-230-6028 or by email at ap05862.lakeorion@applebees.com.

"It's a great charity - I have a three-and-a-half-year-old daughter named Ava - so we're accepting golfers right up to the last minute," she said.

Note that during the Aug. 1-31 period, participating Applebee's restaurants nationwide (the corporate-owned locations) will be participating in this restaurant promotion benefiting MAW.

At participating Applebee's, the restaurants will also offer paper icons that are posted in the facilities (praising MAW recipients) to solicit customer donations. Guests can purchase a paper icon for \$1, \$5, \$10 or \$25. Funds collected will benefit the store's local community.

This is the fourth year for the Applebee's national campaign. To date, Applebee's has raised more than \$500,000 to benefit the

Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Meanwhile, back at the Lake Orion Applebee's, bartender Beardslee is a local woman who has followed her mother's career as a GM employee around the country, finally settling in locally.

Beardslee's mother, Kathy, is a GM employee who earlier worked at the GM Pontiac facility, then Tarrytown, N.Y., when it was a GM minivan plant, then Indiana.

"I lived in Indiana 9-10 years (prior)," Beardslee pointed out.

She's been a bartender at the Lake Orion Applebee's for the past five years and enjoys supporting their charitable endeavors.

The current endeavor includes this golf tourney at the Myth.

The event schedule includes registration at 9:30 a.m., shotgun start at 10 a.m., lunch at "the turn" around 12:30 p.m. or so and finally buffet dinner at 3:30 p.m.

She also has the following sponsorship opportunities:

- Golf Cart Sponsor (\$250), allowing for exclusive signage on all golf carts used during the event;
- Registration Sponsor (\$100), sponsorship of all signage at the registration area;
- Reception Sponsor (\$100), recognition during the Dinner/Buffer function;



Lake Orion Applebee's Nicole Beardslee.

Photo by Gerald Scott

• Hole Sponsor (\$100), where each hole has its own corporate sponsor for the modest fee.

Since 1984, Make-A-Wish Michigan has granted wishes to more than 7,000 special children in Michigan. Funding comes from individual contributors, special events, corporate donations,

foundation grants and other singular financial sources.

Beardslee is allowed to sell 50-50 raffle tickets to patrons of her restaurant to raise funds for this charitable event. That, and she has a new golf bag signed by various golf pros that will be up for silent auction on the day of the event.

## Oakland Community College will Train New Technicians

BLOOMFIELD HILLS - A new Oakland Community College credit technical program designed to train technicians in the multiple skills required in advanced manufacturing will begin in September.

OCC's Economic & Workforce Development (EWD) and Engineering, Manufacturing and Technical Sciences departments have listened to their partners in

business and industry who have expressed the need for multi-skill training. In response to that unmet need, this program has been designed to fill skill gaps for new and incumbent workers.

Mechatronics - Integrated Skills for Advanced Manufacturing - begins with a series of core courses equaling 35 credits, or 570 classroom hours.

Topics such as geo-algebra, in-

dustrial safety, mechanical gears and linkages, computer-assisted design, applied electricity, problem solving, robotics and fluid power are covered in the core sessions.

Classes are completed in five two-month components each including two to three classes, and finishing in June 2013. All credits can be applied toward a technological sciences degree.

## WPC Cruise Is Aug. 22

Walter P. Chrysler Museum's next Cruise Night is Weds., Aug. 22, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. There is a \$5 show car entry fee.

## Chevy Bel Air Was 'Answer to a Dream' for Woodward' Pre-Cruise Event

GM Design conquered Woodward Ave. again this year on the Wednesday afternoon prior to the actual Dream Cruise.

We caught up with Dave Ross, Design manager for Performance and Special Builds and Ross' story - and his classic car - sure seems to reflect and embody the spirit of the show.

GM Design on Woodward allows Design staffers to parade their personal vehicles to 13 Mile and Woodward and display them there in the Northwood Plaza 1-9 p.m. on Aug. 15, which is only three days prior to the Cruise, but the atmosphere up and down the display area was already in gear, so to speak.

Ross owns a classic 1957 Chevrolet and he described his connection to that car and the emotions that imbue it.

"It's a 1957 Chevy Bel Air. I've had it for 14 years. . . I've had it a long time, it's part of the family," Ross said.

"I bought the car in this shape but I rebuilt it all because the car was (re-)built back in 1979. It ended up in a car collection in a warehouse, got forgotten, then I bought it off the collection and resurrected it, got it running again. I'm a big guy, I get to fit into it (comfortably)."

Meanwhile, classic cruise cars are often referred to as "time machines" and here's why - especially for Baby Boomers, a given car, or brand, evokes emotions in the owner that very often the same car of today does not.

Again, Ross explained his love of the 1957 Chevrolet Bel Air:

"My very first car: I dragged



Northwood Plaza was the scene last Wednesday for "GM Design on Woodward."

Detroit Auto Scene photo by Angelia Crisp Nance

an old '57 Chevy home when I was 14 years old and my dad had a fit - this rusty old car. I found that old '57 out of a farmer's field and dragged it home and I got it to run, but I went to college," Ross recalled.

So, of course, Ross has a personal connection to his cruise car, but multiply that by the dozens and dozens of GM Design staffers who have their personal cars, with similar stories, all on display at the heart of the Dream Cruise corridor.

"I like doing this, it's all the people we work with casual and in their elements, we meet their families, see their cars, share their passions about cars. I do it every year, it's a lot of fun," Ross said.

"It's a neat event. We start off with the show at Design Center with the car there, then we get a

police escort here (down 13 Mile) and we come down after lunch to hang out here."

Finally, Ross was asked if, besides nostalgic emotions, is there anything today's modern designers can take away from all these elegant land boats of the 1950s or power muscle cars of the 1960s, and incorporate into a modern vehicle?

"Today's cars have different requirements and different issues," he said, "but when you talk to today's designers, they're experiencing the same passion that the designers back in 1957 had for their design, too. It's really connecting with the product, with the moment on that stuff."

"You look at these old classic cars, there are beautiful shapes and trim, the interiors strike me on these cars with all of the de-

tail. A lot of us come to an event like this and we think, it would be great to do some of this stuff all over again."

Elsewhere at the GM Design on Woodward event, U.S. Steel retiree Michael Booth of Allen Park had his 1967 Camaro convertible on display and it was turning heads and then some.

The 1967 Camaro, of course, was GM's answer to the pony car craze of that era kicked off by the 1964-1/2 Ford Mustang. The then-new Camaro has very striking exterior lines and being a convertible, well, you just want to jump in and drive it when you see it.

"My brother had a 1968 Firebird, my older brother, so I got turned on to the Camaros and I've been loving them ever since. Original trans, engine, original valve covers, even. The whole under-

## Kramer Is Named OU Board Chair

The Oakland University Board of Trustees appointed Michael R. Kramer as Chair of the Board. He had been Vice Chair since 2010.

"Michael Kramer will do an outstanding job as Chair of OU's Board," said outgoing Chair Henry Baskin. "His abiding passion for Oakland University students, faculty and staff, combined with his strong work ethic and strategic planning skills, will serve the university well."

Kramer was first appointed to OU's Board in August, 2008, by then-Gov. Jennifer Granholm. He is a member of the Dickinson Wright PLLC law firm, considered one of the country's leading business law firms, with offices in Detroit and the suburbs as well as Washington, D.C.

Kramer also currently serves as Director / Vice Chairman for Oakland Family Services, an Oakland County children's service provider with offices in Pontiac, Rochester Hills, Berkley and Walled Lake.

Meanwhile, Kramer is also a Past Director of Resolution Trust Corporation; State of Michigan's Export Development Corporation; Jewish Home for the Aged; Crestmark Bancorp, Inc.; Attorney Discipline Board and Past President and Director of the Franklin Hills Country Club. He was selected as one of the Best Lawyers in Michigan by his peers.

"I'm pleased to accept the responsibility of leading the Oakland University Board," Kramer said.

"We have a tremendous mix of talent, business savvy and leadership on our Board."

Kramer and his wife, Zina, have two children.

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