

## recreation news

Each week, the Farmington Hills Department of Special Services Recreation Division presents a synopsis of upcoming activities. For more information about programs, call the recreation office, 473-8370. For matters regarding city council agenda items, call Neulshine at 476-3838.

**• ski league**  
This activity is for children 7-13 years of age. The league offers lessons, races, a club patch, a poster and more. The first session will be held on Saturdays, Jan. 6, 13, and 20 from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the Glen

Oaks Ski Center Center. Fee is \$26 with rental and \$18 with your own equipment.

**• ski lessons**  
Individuals age 10 and older can learn the proper techniques to glide across the snow as they begin enjoying this life-long activity. Lessons are on Saturdays on Sundays at 10 a.m. and 12 p.m. beginning Jan. 6. Fee is \$7 with your own equipment, \$13 with equipment rental. Pre-registration is required.

**• learn to bowl**  
Children in grades three to five

can learn the basic fundamentals that will help develop their bowling skills. A four-lesson program on Tuesdays begins Jan. 9 at Bel-Air Lanes from 4-5:30 p.m. Shoes are provided. Also a bowling-plus program runs on Saturdays for eight weeks at Drake's Lanes from noon-2 p.m. The program provides instruction and league-type play beginning Jan. 6.

**• youth baseball**  
The North Farmington/West Bloomfield Baseball and Softball for Youth will be taking registrations for boys ages 7-18 (as of 7/31/90) and girls ages 9-16 (as of 8/31/01

Wednesday, Jan. 10, and Tuesday, Jan. 16, from 8:30-9 p.m. in the North Farmington High School cafeteria, 32800 W. 13 Mile Rd. Parents must bring health identification card, any new players must present a birth certificate and parents must register their own child.

**• Heritage Park**  
Winter is here and the Department of Special Services announces the opening of the sled hill and ice rinks at Heritage Parks. A new ice rink has been constructed for this season by the comfort station adjacent to the back parking lot. This rink is designated for ice hockey play. The

farm pond near the Spicer House parking lot is to be used for ice skating only. The park is open from dawn to dusk.

**• ski centers**  
The Recreation Division has opened two cross-country ski centers equipped with ski rental to service the skiers of the community. Heritage Park has over five miles of trails. The center is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from noon to 5 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Glen Oaks Ski Center is open on Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The center

provides ski rental as well as lessons; however, please register at the recreation office for the lessons. Both centers will have groomed trails.

**• after school**  
Registration for the winter after-school recreation classes is being accepted at the recreation office. The winter schedule will include dance, gymnastics, art and Karate classes. Classes are at Eagle, Woodlake, Gill Woodcrest, Lakeshire and Forest Elementary Schools and Oakland Community College. Contact the recreation office for specific details.

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## Residents getting snow job

By Darrell Clem staff writer

In what police have termed a "snow job," area residents apparently have been bilked in a fraud scheme in which they signed contracts for snowplowing services.

Police in neighboring West Bloomfield Township have received at least 10 complaints from residents who paid about \$108 each to have their driveways plowed of snow — but did not get the service they were promised, said Sgt. Michael Madigan.

The fraud scheme is believed to have spread to Bloomfield Township, Madigan said, though the number of reports there could not be confirmed.

West Bloomfield police have a suspect in the case, "and we believe he's

still in the area," probably working under an assumed name, Madigan said.

No one has been charged yet, though Madigan said he expects to bring charges before the county prosecutor's office, possibly next week.

Altogether, the suspect apparently has collected more than \$1,000 for snowplowing services that were promised but not delivered, Madigan said.

The suspect is believed to have visited the homes of the customers he allegedly defrauded — at which time contracts apparently were signed and customers wrote personal checks to pay for the services, Madigan said.

But no one returned to do the work, he said. "We believe that no one has received these services."

**THE CUSTOMERS** were told that they would have snow removed from their driveways if it reached a depth of one inch or more, Madigan said.

Such cases generally would be handled in a civil suit, in which the customer would have to file suit in civil court. But West Bloomfield police plan to seek criminal charges because of "the sheer volume of the complaints." Police view the number of complaints as an indication that the suspect "intended to defraud the people he signed agreements with."

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