

Homicide victim found on 11 Mile

By DAN McCOSH

"I'm still kind of shaky"
-- Joseph Ugrin

FARMINGTON -- A trip to the corner grocery became a chilling brush with murder for Joseph Ugrin, 32, 285 11 Mile, Monday night.

"I'm still kind of shaky," Ugrin said after discovering the body of William N. Jones, 51, of Detroit, in front of his home barely a mile from the Farmington Hills police station.

A retired employee for

Ford Motor Co., Jones had been shot once in the head and his body dumped on the quiet residential street.

Ugrin thinks he may have heard that shot.

"I was just going out to the store," he said.

"I got in the car, shut the door, and when I turned the

at it again. That's when I saw an arm.

"I turned right around and went back to the police station."

Police say the man was dead only a very short time when they got to the scene.

They were following up several good leads Tuesday, according to Director Ronald Holko, in cooperation with the Detroit police dept.

He added it did not appear to be a drug-type "execution" because of the appearance of the victim.



Murder investigated

AT THE SCENE -- Farmington Hills detectives check the victim's identification. The body was left on a section of 11 Mile where the houses are screened from the road by a row of trees. (Photo by Ralph Evert)

Raid yields loot

FARMINGTON -- Farmington Hills police, along with those from Livonia and Farmington, raided a house at 3474 Rhoswood, Farmington Hills, and confiscated approximately \$15,000 worth of goods apparently burglarized from area businesses.

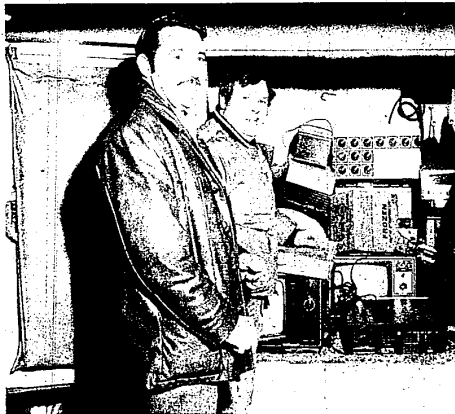
Police arrested six people in the raid, including four living at the Rhoswood address and two from Warren.

Arrested were David H. Przeclack, 29; Mark S. Dennis, 18; Jeffrey Poepter, 21; and Laura McWatt, 20, all living in the raided house.

Confiscated was a range of stereo and electronic equipment.

Those arrested were charged with possession of stolen property.

James Laffey, 19, and Mark Blunden, 18, of Warren, were turned over to the Livonia police.



UNLOADING about \$15,000 worth of stolen goods confiscated from a raid on a Farmington Hills home are Charles Archambeau, (left) of the Farmington Hills police, and Murray Switzer, of the Farmington police. (Evert photo)

Shiawasse vacation has another hearing

FARMINGTON -- Shiawasse, between Middle Belt and Nine Mile, is up for another vacation hearing Feb. 11.

The rough section of road, which cuts across the corner made by the Nine Mile - Middle Belt intersection, has been the subject of a fight over the proposed abandonment for several years.

Although it was defeated both by the Oakland County

Road Commission and in a court fight, it is now under the jurisdiction of the City of Farmington Hills, and the city council will have to make the decision about the road's future again.

The petition, which will be heard at 8 p.m., at the beginning of the council meeting, originated from property owners on the north side of the street, and some on the south.

If the road is vacated, the triangle of land on the north will be expanded and "squared off," increasing the amount of buildable land.

Opponents in the past were supported by the local police department, the school board and fire department, which felt the street was needed for traffic and access to the subdivision south of the road.

Particularly affected is Tu-

lane, which now exists onto Shiawasse.

City Manager George Majors said a study is in progress from the standpoint of traffic engineering, but no conclusion had been reached.

This is the first time the city has considered the vacation of a street currently in use, he added. Up to now, "paper streets" which have never actually been constructed, and alleys, have been the only ones vacated.

School bus windows are tested by state

FARMINGTON -- Samples of window glass from several school windows are being

tested by the State Police to determine if they meet state standards.

The glass was removed from the windows near one broken by a snowball which

cut a student recently, the first to be injured by such an incident in the district.

Sgt. Jay Kennedy, of the traffic and safety department, said there was no indication the glass didn't meet state standards.

The glass in question is "tempered" type safety glass, which is designed to shatter in small pieces when broken. Most buses in the district have "laminated" safety glass, which is designed to hold the glass splinters in a plastic inner core when broken.

The play, with a "cast of thousands" will have a sequentennial theme. The Jaycees refused to comment on the rumor they intend to set the community back 150 years.

Historical theme for Jaycee Play

FARMINGTON -- The annual Jaycee play will have a historic theme this year.

Reliable sources indicate a major work in progress, the Jaycees' interpretation of Farmington history, done as a light-hearted musical comedy.

Dates are March 22 and 23 with the production tentatively set for Harrison High.

The Jaycee play is a tradition in Farmington, an effort to get new members to work on a common project. Old members, as well as "exhausted roosters," tend to make up an appreciative audience.

This year, the Jaycees expect to try to reach a wider audience than in years past, a spokesman said.

John Hay is chairman of

the play, which was written by Dick Taylor and Bob Ridgeway. The music was written by Rick Bowen.

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'Cross your fingers' says Rep. Griffiths



U.S. REP. MARTHA GRIFFITHS spoke on the energy crisis.

FARMINGTON -- "Everybody's fingers are crossed," U.S. Rep. Martha Griffiths (D - Farmington) commented on the economy before the Farmington Chamber of Commerce at the annual meeting recently.

She made the remark referring to President Richard Nixon's income in the State of the Union speech, when he said there would be no recession as a result of the energy crisis.

Mrs. Griffiths had recently returned from a session with the House ways and means committee, which heard Henry Kissinger, U.S. secretary of state, comment on foreign oil shipments.

"The real danger is that each nation would make an individual deal with the oil-rich nations," she said.

"Francis recently concluded a contract for \$11 a barrel, and Japan is also negotiating independently," she said.

Saying the Arabs are now receiving an income in dollars five times what it was before the embargo began, she said it was a possibility the rates could increase to where the oil-rich countries would corner all the surplus money in the western world.

The U.S. effort is attempting to "push back the price of oil to \$8 a barrel," she added.

"This needs a united world."

"Sharing in the world's resources equally is essential to maintaining world peace."

Oil came up again when she talked about taxes.

She predicted an effort to change the tax structure to make it more profitable for U.S. oil companies, to develop native resources rather than investing overseas.

Mrs. Griffiths also predicted a decrease in income taxes if a recession develops. "That has been proven to be the swiftest way to combat a recession."

She touched lightly on her

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SCOTT POLLINS wrote a letter to the Farmington Chamber of Commerce "citizen of the year" committee which resulted in George De Courcy getting a posthumous award for his work in the community. Mrs. De Courcy was visible moved when the award was presented by one of her husband's former scouts. (Evert photo)



MARLOWE BELANGER became the first woman recipient of the "citizen of the year" award. Peter Prokop, who chaired the committee which sited the entries, congratulated Mrs. Belanger on her work, which centered on the Farmington Arts Council. (Evert photo)

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