

City expands ice pond facilities

The City of Farmington will have two outdoor rinks this year. City council has approved a recommendation by City Manager Robert Deadman that the traditional ice pond be continued at the corner of Shawassee and Farmington and that an additional rink be put into service across the street in Shawassee Park. Although recommending the two locations, Deadman admitted that usage of the facilities is tentative because of weather considerations. "A good outdoor ice rink cannot be constructed and maintained without the cooperation of mother nature," he said in his presentation to council.

"Near zero temperatures are required, at least during the night hours, to build up a base and to resurface an outdoor rink." During the last two skating seasons, he said, low temperatures were available for only short periods. "We believe the city will continue to receive complaints regarding the inadequacy of our outdoor skating rinks during any winter in which we constantly do not have cold weather with temperatures low enough to allow resurfacing the rink on a nightly basis," he said.

To aid in making the rinks more usable throughout the winter months, Doug Gaynor, director of the Farmington Area Recreation Commission, the Shawassee-Farmington rink be bermed on the north side to confine the area to be used as an ice rink. He also recommended that the low area be leveled as much as possible so flooding is easier and more economical.

The second rink will be installed on the lighted baseball field in Shawassee Park. It will be constructed

by grading some of the infield material to form a berm on the perimeter. "We believe this ice rink should be set aside for hockey, and the ice rink at the corner of Shawassee and Farmington be maintained for general skating," said Deadman. The maintenance of the two rinks will cost \$2,000 in man hours. Deadman hopes that enough cold weather will prevail to allow up to thirty days of skating. Use of the rink has been of some concern to residents. It took 21 man hours in 1973 to maintain the rink, with approximately 11 skating days being utilized. In 1974, with the commitment of 268 man-hours, nine skating days were utilized.



A Farmington Hills police officer searches for clues after the body of Moses Harvey was found in a field off of I-696 and Middlebelt. (Photo by Janet Blake)

Body identified: police investigate

Farmington Hills police believe the body of Moses Harvey, 30, of Detroit, was dumped in the high weeds on the side of the I-696 expressway about four months ago, according to Public Safety Director Ronald Holko. The body was found early Sunday afternoon off eastbound I-696, west of Middle Belt, by two young girls who were riding horseback. "All we have is a skeleton. We found a wallet, but it is so saturated that it is difficult to read," said police Captain Russell Conway. Harvey has been identified as a Detroit resident. Holko believes the victim was murdered, but declined to speculate on how Harvey was killed. Presently,

tests are being conducted by the State Police Crime Laboratory in Plymouth to determine the cause of death. Police say the body was in an advanced stage of decomposition. A motive for the slaying has as yet been undetermined, according to police officials. Although Holko surmised the body had been dropped in Farmington Hills after being murdered, he noted that it hadn't just been thrown out of a car. The body was found 80 feet up an embankment from the expressway.

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