

Weird weather is a holiday gift



The sleds, ice skates and toboggans stayed stashed under the tree Christmas Day as temperatures in the area reached a record high of 64 degrees.

The temperature shattered the previous record of 60 degrees set Christmas Day in 1863, according to Lee Vandeclar, specialist in the U.S. Weather Service at Metropolitan Airport.

The balmy weather we've enjoyed most of the month has broke records on five different days in December, Vandeclar adds. The high temperatures on Dec. 2, 3, 5, 25, and 28 were unprecedented.

The highest temperature of the month occurred Dec. 2 when the mercury hit 61 degrees. Tuesday's temperature got as high as 59 degrees before dropping drastically as winds reached speeds of 59 m.p.h.

The reprieve from the customary cold caused residents of the Farmington area to try out new jogging outfits and bicycles. Mike Gavigan took to the streets on a skateboard.

Others took advantage of the warm spell and washed cars or fed ducks found swimming on unfrozen ponds.

It'll be remembered my many as the Christmas they spent in short sleeves.

Sleds gave way to skateboards Tuesday as Mike Gavigan hit the streets with sleeves rolled up in 60 degree weather.



Feeding the ducks in a Farmington Hills pond was the way Pat Sullivan and her son J.P. spent Tuesday morning. They left when the winds picked up and blew the corn back at them.



Mayo Cheney and his son Chris took advantage of the last nice day of winter by washing the family car outdoors on Dec. 28. Leave that hose outside another day and it'll freeze.



Jogging is never fun, no matter what you hear, but it's a whole lot more enjoyable when the weather's nice. Mike Bailey and Katie Potter found the road-side clear of snow, ice and slush on their run Tuesday.

YMCA highlights

The Farmington-area YMCA provides a variety of services for youth and adults in the community. Further information may be obtained by calling 533-4020 between 9 a.m. and 10:30 p.m. daily.

REGISTRATION — Start off the new year on your best foot by registering for a YMCA class. Registration begins Jan. 3 for members at 6:30 a.m. and for non-members at 8:30 a.m. Phone in registration Jan. 4-16 from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the weekends.

SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE — Mark your calendar for two evenings of middle school fun. Middle school students will be able to participate in gym games, open air movies, and electronic games. Each evening a theme which includes the door-in-the-face passed out to middle schools. On Jan. 8 a community dance will be conducted at the Y at 28100 Farmington Road in Farmington Hills. On Feb. 5 a youth party will be conducted. Each one of the activities is \$1 for members and \$2 for non-members.

GYM AND SWIM PROGRAMS — (for 3- and 4-year-olds). This program is designed to help your child develop mentally as well as physically. Children will have 30 minutes of gym time, a 15-minute transition period and a 30 minute swim lesson/transition period. Please have children wear their suit under loose fitting clothing and gym shoes so they can move freely in the gym. Please send a towel and a change of clothes after swimming (parents receive children at locker doors after classes to dress children).

NEW YEAR'S EVE SLEEP OVER — Bring in the New Year the "Youth Way" with a midnight sleep over. That's right, mom and dad, let your child attend the Farmington YMCA New Year's Eve Youth Party. One price includes a late night treat, punch, noisemakers, hats, plus party T-shirt. Also included is a late night swim, movie and loads of fun time activities. Along with all of this is doughnuts and hot chocolate the next morning. Parents will pick their children up between 7:30-8:30 a.m. on Dec. 31 and pick them up between 9:30-10 a.m. the next morning. Registration is limited. Charge is \$16 for members and \$20 for non-members. Children eligible are between 5-10 years-old.

FATHER AND TOT FUNTIME — A special program designed for the 2-3-year-old and his/her father. Activities include short stories and nursery rhymes, finger plays and songs which will encourage verbal development and exercises. Pop-ups.

SINGLE PARENTS MEET MONTHLY

"Suddenly single" parents may attend Parents Without Partners meetings every first and third Wednesday. The Farmington-Southfield Chapter gathers at 8 p.m. at Bonnie Brook Country Club on Telegraph Road south of Eight Mile.

PWP is an international, educational, volunteer organization of single parents — widowed, divorced, separated, or unmarried. It is open to all

single parents with living children.

Wide-ranging activities are sponsored by the group including family events, recreational get-togethers, dances and mixers, and discussion meetings on diverse topics.

FUN CLUB AND MORE — Saturday fun club is back. This popular program will have a new addition — fun finders. Fun finders is for youth in grades 4-7. Fun Club is for grades K-3. Come join the fun on Saturday mornings for new games, indoor and outdoor activities, swimming movies and crafts. Bring your swimsuit, towels, gym shoes and lunch. The Y will supply the drink and fun. Fun Club runs for seven weeks from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Fun Finders meets from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fee is \$12 for members and \$18 for non-members.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB — While it's cold outside, it's fun inside. After school special works with youth in the area of crafts, mime, song, games, and movies. You should wear play clothes. The club meets from 4-6 p.m. Cost is \$12 for members and \$18 for non-members.

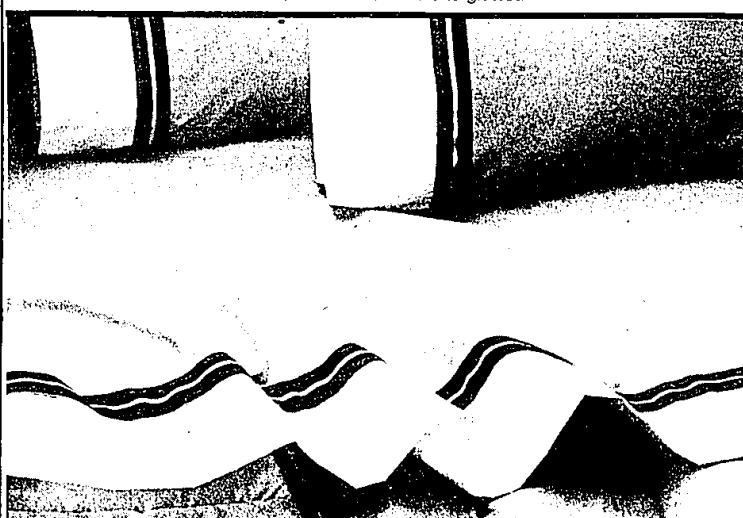
STYLING — The YMCA has a new addition to its styling program. The new addition is a hair and makeup service. The service is available for all YMCA members.

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