



PHOTO BY TOM MENDELKA  
Bill King teaches ice diving at the Farmington Area YMCA. It's a sport he considers safer than warm-weather diving.

## Learning to dive

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Ice diving actually is safer than diving during the summer months, said King, who makes about 200 dives a year and also teaches in Novi, Northville, Garden City, Wyandotte and Belleville.

"There's less risk because the divers are all advanced students and know what they're doing. Secondly, so many (more) safety precautions are taken. People prepare well for the dive by training intensively in the classroom and in a pool. Before the dive, they make sure they eat a good meal so that they're burning a lot of calories and staying warm."

"The rope is secured firmly to the surface, and a safety diver at the surface is there to give assistance at all times," said the St. Cloud State University graduate.

Ice diving is really a social activity, he adds.

"In the summer you can just get up on a Saturday and say to a buddy, 'let's go diving.' When you dive in the winter, it takes days of preparation to get the tanks, full gear and select a site. And it requires four people. You need a safety diver, a tender (to man

the rope), someone to help set up the tent, cut the hole through the ice, and shovel snow."

To help divers find their way back to the opening, 60-foot long radial paths are shoveled, allowing sunlight to penetrate the ice.

Included in King's curriculum for novice ice divers are trips (weather permitting) to Silver Lake, Union Lake and Mecedoy Lake where they'll simulate the rescue of lost divers, and practice buoyancy control, achieved by floating halfway between the surface and the bottom.

Towards the end of Sunday's outing, a couple of King's students had grown accustomed to their aquatic surroundings.

"These two were sitting in the hole, looking up at a pilot piloting by in an ultra-light airplane," King said.

"They said they thought the guy must be very foolish to be flying around on such a cold day."

Weiland is sold on the sport.

"It's pretty thrilling, and a lot of fun being out there with people — some that you haven't seen for awhile, and some that you get to meet," said Weiland. "I'll be there every week."

## Hills sets agenda

### CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS

#### City Council agenda

#### Regular Meeting

February 14 - 7:30 p.m.

#### Unfiled Business:

- Consideration of notice of intent to authorize and issue bonds for Richmond Hills Water Improvement SAD bonds in the amount of \$57,112.44.
- Consideration of adoption of traffic control orders at various intersections in the Hollywood Subdivision. (Postponed from meeting of Jan. 24.)
- Report of tree trimming on Barfield.

## LIT names honor students

The following Farmington and Farmington Hills students have been named to the dean's honor roll for the winter-early term at Lawrence Institute of Technology.

**Farmington Hills** — David Beard, Larry Bemis, Joseph Capaldi, Michael Chekal, Donna Lozen, Carl Rickel and Jeff Thompson.

**Farmington** — Nancy Andrews, Keith Krauter, Dennis Marlow, Joseph Murphy and Kimberly Wilson.

To be named to the honor roll a student must maintain at least a 3.5 grade point average and be a full-time student.

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