

# Fire, rescue runs up for volunteers

Farmington Hills paid its volunteer firemen \$138,788.46 for responding to 748 fire and rescue runs during 1977. The recently released Hills Public Safety Department's annual report shows.

The fire department responded to 433 fire calls this year, an increase of 42 fire runs from the previous year.

Along with the increase in fire runs, the value of property destroyed in those blazes also increased. The dollar value lost in the fires was estimated at \$1,745,228.95.

This is a 284 per cent increase from loss figures of 1974, when it was only \$603,520 for 411 fires.

According to the Public Safety report, the largest monetary increase in property loss was in residential areas where dollar damage jumped from \$220,706 in 1974 to over \$1.03 million in 1975.

The loss on contents other than dwellings increased 202 per cent to \$203,373 in 1975 from only \$42,180 in 1974.

The report also revealed that the fire department responded last year to half the number of false alarms it did in 1974. The 1975 figure was 14, with 27 the previous year.

THE VOLUNTEERS responded to 125 residential runs during the past year and 228 fire runs while operating its human rescue division. They handled 274 runs the year before, the report listed.

There were 18 more house fires in 1975 than in 1974. This increase in house fires and the extent of damage caused during the blazes accounts for the large increase in the property loss column.

Grass, brush and forest fires decrease from 138 in 1974 to only 74 in 1975. Automobile fires also dropped by 10 from 79 the year before.

The fire report shows that the number of unknown fires declined during 1975. This decrease in unknown blazes was 67 per cent or 41 fires from 132 in 1974.

May was the city's worst month for fires as 88 blazes were reported. There were 78 fires in August, and February had the least with only 46.

When investigating causes of fires, the department found 18 fires were the work of arsonists. That is 18 more recorded arson fires than in 1974.

The total value of property lost in these fires was estimated at \$24,900—up almost \$700,000 from the previous year.

TYPE OF ACTIVITY	1974	1975	% CHG.
Total Fire Runs	411	433	5.6
Total False Alarms	27	14	-48.1
Total Rescue Runs	274	228	-16.4
Total Fatalities	0	0	0
Value of Property Destroyed	\$457,007	\$1,745,228.95	284
Total House Fires	132	150	13.6
Grass, Brush & Forest Fires	138	74	-46.4
Automobile Fires	79	69	-12.7
Unknown Fires	132	41	-68.9
Arson Fires	18	18	0
Training Runs	233	243	4.3
Rescue Runs	274	228	-16.4
False Alarms	27	14	-48.1
Property Loss	\$603,520	\$1,745,228.95	284

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The Hills volunteer fire department comparison chart shows the percentage change in fire activities during 1975 from the previous year. The largest change is in the value of property destroyed which increased 284 per cent last year.

## WSU names local man acting dean

Dr. Thomas C. Rumble, 3209 N. Markham, Farmington, has been appointed acting dean of graduate studies at Wayne State University.

The open post was created by the death of Dr. Alfred H. Kelly.

Rumble left as dean of graduate studies in June, 1975 to return to the department of English at his own request. Dr. Kelly was named acting dean to replace Rumble who had been dean since 1971. Rumble formerly associate dean of the graduate division, joined the WSU faculty as assistant professor in 1959. He holds degrees from Tulane University.

Prior to coming to Wayne State, Rumble served on the teaching staffs of Louisiana State University, Tulane University, the University of Mississippi and the University of North Carolina.

He is married and the father of two sons.

## License plate deadline April 1

If area police aren't seeing red, white and blue by April 1, they will begin handing out tickets. That's the deadline for 1978 Michigan license plates.

According to Bob Cullen, assistant manager of Automobile Club of Michigan's safety and traffic engineering department, many state residents wait until the last few days to get plates. Long lines are expected on March 31 at most auto club and Department of State offices as a result.

To get new plates, take either the prepared license application mailed to the Department of State, car registration or title plus proof of insurance. The plates cost is listed on the registration forms.

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