

Hills battled 389 fires during 1978

During 1978, Farmington Hills was the site of 389 fires which resulted in \$1,547,294 in property loss and two deaths, according to the fire department's annual report.

Most of the property loss recorded in 1978 was the result of four major fires which damaged businesses.

On Jan. 3, the first of those major fires occurred when Waack's Bar, 29134 Grand River, was destroyed by fire. There were \$185,000 in damages as a result of the fire.

On April 23 the El Nibble Nook Restaurant, 29473 Grand River, was destroyed by fire. The conflagration caused \$105,000 in damages.

About \$130,000 in damages occurred when a barn housing antique cars was burned on Nov. 5. The barn was at 35100 West Twelve Mile.

Gross-Grimes Cleaners suffered the last major fire of 1978 on Dec. 17 when their branch office at 33210 West Twelve Mile burned causing \$354,000 in damages.

Eight persons were injured during

fires in the past year. No one was seriously injured.

In 1978, the total value of property destroyed in fires amounted to \$1,547,294, in comparison to the previous year's total of \$1,456,830.

BUT THE VALUE of property saved in 1978 amounted to \$29,745,827, which was more than 97% of the total of \$1,547,294.

Residences had a break in 1978 with \$389,547 being recorded as losses from

fires. In 1977, \$643,595 was lost as a result of residential fires.

In 1978, there was \$436,685 lost in fires involving buildings other than residences. In the previous year, \$336,260 was lost in such fires.

Farmington Hills fire fighters answered 1,878 alarms. Of these, 389 were fires, 972 were medical emergencies, 153 were calls involving such occurrences as open hydrants, flooded basements, and cancelled runs. There were 54 false alarms, 24 accidental alarms and one explosion.

Farmington Observer

USPS 197-640
Published every Monday and Thursday by the Observer & Economic News, 35251 Schoolcraft Rd., Livonia, Michigan 48150. Second-class postage paid at Livonia, Michigan 48151. Address all mail (subscriptions, change of address, Form 3579) to P.O. Box 2428, Livonia, Michigan 48151. Telephone 594-6200.
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Robbery, larceny rise in city during 1978

Rape, armed robbery, burglary, larceny and auto theft rose during 1978 in Farmington, according to the Department of Public Safety's annual report.

There was one rape reported during 1978 in Farmington. In 1977, there were none. Ten years ago, the city recorded one rape.

Armed robbery increased from five incidents in 1977 to seven in 1978. Aggravated assault which totaled 11 incidents in 1968, amounted to five reports in 1977 and four in 1978.

But burglaries continue to rise. In 1968 there were 83 burglaries reported in Farmington. In 1977 there were 95. Last year 106 burglaries were reported in Farmington.

Larcenies, such as shoplifting, bicycle theft and theft of articles in cars amounted to 343 incidents in 1978. In 1977, there were 339 larcenies. In 1978 there were 362.

Auto theft has risen from 24 cases in 1977 to 28 last year.

Incidents of vandalism, drug violations and liquor violations decreased in the past year, according to the report. There were 242 cases of vandalism in 1978 as compared to 259 cases in 1977. Drug violations were down to 20 last year from 33 cases in 1977.

LAST YEAR, there were 48 cases involving drunk driving. In 1977, there

were 73. Liquor law violations also dropped in that time. In 1977 there were 20 violations and in 1978 there were 13. Last year there were 12 cases of liquor law violations while there were 11 cases in 1977.

There were 39 incidents of public intoxication in 1977. There were 11 in 1978.

There was a 22 per cent decrease in adult arrests and a 40 per cent decrease in juvenile arrests during 1978.

"Part of this decrease in both categories is due to fewer arrests for substance abuse," says Farmington Public Safety Director Dan Byrnes.

Accidents were down for 1978, too.

There was a three per cent decrease in total accidents with no fatalities and a 10 per cent decrease in injury accidents. There was a four percent decrease in property damage accidents and a three per cent decrease in private property accidents. The number of injured persons in all types of accidents decreased by 11 per cent.

Fire runs increased for the department in 1978 by five per cent. There were 138 alarms in 1978 as opposed to 131 in 1977. Actual fire runs increased by 22 per cent with more fires being recorded, according to Byrnes.

There were 30 structural fires in 1978 as opposed to 21 in 1977, he said.

Tamburitzans give program

The Tamburitzans of Duquesne University will appear at Ford Auditorium at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, March 25.

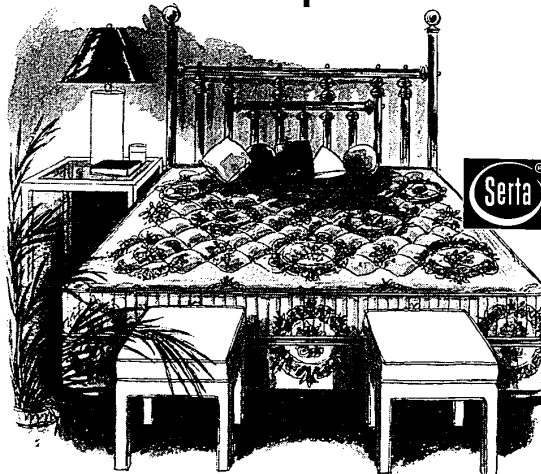
For 41 years this group has presented concerts throughout the United States and Canada, and occasionally to South America, the Soviet Union or Eastern Europe. These college students receive full scholarships for their participation in the group and perform approximately 100 shows each season.

The Tamburitzans' production has been likened to an European musical tour. In hundreds of colorful and authentic costumes, the students give a kaleidoscopic impression of the Balkans and neighboring lands.

The summer of 1978 was an exciting time for the Tamburitzans. During June and July they performed, trained, studied and breathed the cultural life of Bulgaria and Yugoslavia.

Tickets are available at the Ford Auditorium box office and Hudson's ticket offices.

Save \$20 on the mattress and get the foundation for half price!

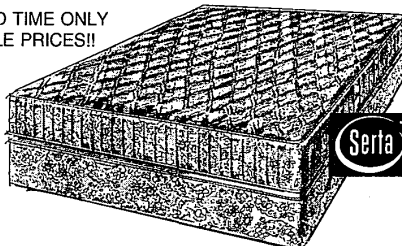


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