

Firefighters seek to avoid phone number confusion

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

Farmington Hills fire officials are cautioning residents to be sure to call the city if they need police or fire help, rather than a private ambulance company.

Candidates file

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of the South Farmington Baseball Association. She lives at 24300 Holly Hill Drive, Farmington Hills.

Prutow, 43, the incumbent, has been on the board since 1973. She is serving her second stint as president, having served as vice president and secretary. She was active in the Kenbrook PTA and the PTA Council, as well as the League of Women Voters and the Michigan Association of Children and Adults with Learning Disabilities. Prutow and her husband reside at 31741 13 Mile Road, Farmington Hills. The Prutows have two children, one soon to graduate from North Farmington High School.

Edmond V. Starrett is a 53-year-old fourth-grade teacher in the Taylor School District and a published author of children's books. Starrett, who lives with his family at 29075 Wellington, Farmington Hills, has a son at Harrison High School and a daughter at Central Michigan University. He has has

pany's number.

Telephone stickers distributed by both the city and private ambulance companies are so similar that residents have been confusing the two, Lt. Richard Marinucci said.

The orange stickers distributed by

the city say "Farmington Hills Emergency, Police-Fire-Medical" with the number 477-0911.

Some of the private ambulance company's stickers also are orange and display the same type of lettering. The

telephone number is, of course, different.

WHILE RESIDENTS may call whomever they choose when an emergency arises, ambulance companies do not provide police or fire services, Marinucci said.

"When you call that number (the city's emergency number), you are going to get whatever service you need. When you call a private ambulance company, you're going to get just medical treatment," Marinucci said.

Several weeks ago, when a fire broke out in a utility trailer, the owners called an ambulance company whose number was displayed on a telephone sticker. Instead of firefighters, medical personnel arrived. While the call eventually reached the fire department, costly delays resulted, Marinucci said.

"All calls should go through the city emergency number because you get the proper service dispatched immediately," he said.

That doesn't mean an ambulance won't be called, Marinucci added. Farmington Hills has an agreement with the Botolph General Hospital-based Community Emergency Medical Service to call whenever an ambulance is required, he said.

WHEN A resident calls the city

emergency number, an ambulance is dispatched at the same time as are firefighters. Firefighters can arrive on the scene and determine whether an ambulance is needed. If not, the ambulance can be cancelled.

About half of Farmington Hills' firefighters are certified Emergency Medical Technicians who can provide at least basic emergency medical care.

By calling firefighters, even if the ambulance is delayed, a firefighter-paramedic probably will be on the scene. All ambulance companies sometimes experience delays because an

ambulance may be unavailable. The ambulance may have to be called in from, for example, Redford or Northville. Delays also have been caused when residents call the 911 emergency number, which is not available in Farmington Hills.

Even when residents call the 911 number, however, their call will go through the Livonia emergency services system, he said.

"The call will eventually get to us through dispatch," Marinucci said. "But there is a minor delay."

Graduate tests set for May 5

A preparation course for taking the graduate record exam or the graduate management aptitude test is scheduled at Madonna College, Livonia, beginning Saturday, May 5. Students enrolling in graduate schools must take one of these tests for admission.

The preparation course, consisting of five Saturday sessions from 9 a.m. to noon, will review the format and content of the GRE and GMAT exams, with the goal of improving student performance on the tests. Emphasis will be placed on the kinds of verbal and quantitative skills measured by the exams, including instruction and exercises to develop skill areas.

The fee is \$75. For information, call 591-5188. Madonna College is located at I-96 and Levan Road in Livonia.

Superintendent hired

Continued from Page 1

He's an outstanding educator. The Clarencville School Board has excellent judgment."

Shibler told the school board in his interview last month that he comes from a long line of educators. His father was a school superintendent in a number of school districts including Birmingham, Highland Park and Indianapolis. Shibler said becoming a school superintendent was a lifelong goal.

His educational background includes a master's degree in educational administration from Michigan State University and a bachelor of science degree in education from Ball State Uni-

versity. He attended high school in West Lafayette, Ind. He's now working on his doctorate degree in educational administration at Michigan State University.

"I'm very excited about the opportunity to come to Clarencville," Shibler said Friday morning. "I'm looking forward to this opportunity and the challenges ahead. The board of education has really made me feel like I'm going to be welcomed."

About his plans for the district, he added, "They (the school board) want to move forward and establish a district that's progressive. And we will be doing that."

In the next two weeks trustees will be negotiating a salary with Shibler.

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