Household fire-safety tips presented

The Michigan State Police Fire Mar-shal Division and the Farmington and Farmington Hills fire departments re-mind residents that National Fire Pre-vention Week, Oct. 6-12, is the time of year to re-acquaint your family with wood-heating-appliance safety. Last year, there were 3,600 fires di-rectly attributed to wood stoves, fire-places and chimnes, which accounted

places and chimneys, which accounted for more than \$8.6 million in property

loss.

Primary causes of these fires were:

e Improper installation of wood heating appliances that typically involved stoves installed too close to combustible wails, improper pre-tection, unsafe installation through walls or ceilings, and furniture, wood

tion, such as creosote buildap in chimneys and stove pipe connectors, timproper disposal of sahes and escaping sparks or embers.

• Improper installation of venting pipes or chimneys that involved stove pipes installed too close to walts or cellings and improper walt, ceiling and attle space penetration.

• Use of flammable liquids to kindle fires.

• Failure of automatic control devices.

• Fuel overload — too much fuel

or clothing left too close to the heating appliance.

Improper maintenance or operation, such as crecosole buildup in chimneys and stove pipe connectors, interproper disposal of antes and escaping sparks or embers.

Improper maintenance or operation, such as furniture, logs, newspaperoper disposal of antes and escaping sparks or embers.

ONE OF the more important ele-ments in fire safety is eliminating fire hazards from your home.

ie fires.

• Failure of automatic control de-lees.

• Fuel overload — too much fuel

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• The oliowing are safety checks: As-the following are safety checks: As-More than 20,000 residential fires

Install smoke detectors outside sleeping areas and on each level of the bouse. Clean detectors as recommended by the manufacturer and replace batteries once a year.

Clean the attic, basement, closets and garage. Throw out old newspapers, rubbits and other comboutibles.

Make sure flammable liquids, such as gasoline, paint hinner, varnish, paint, lighter fluid and olds, are kept in tightly closed approved considers, and are stored in a col, dry place away from furnaces or other best sources.

A fireplace should have a metal copening to predeced the provided possible of the predeced provided the predeced provided the predeced of the predeced provided the predeced of the predeced provided the provided the predeced predeced provided the predeced provided the provided the predeced provided the provided provided the provided provide

Twice a week is

LAST YEAR, 301 people lost their lives as a result of fires in Michigan. Of this number, 27 percent of the deaths were children under the age of 12. Children should know the following basic rules of fire safety so they can avoid serious injuries or death from fire, say fire officials:

• They should never play with matches.

FIRE OFFICIALS and that 76,599 fires were reported in Michigan last year, causing \$309 million in property damage.

By observing the following basic fire safety rules, you can do your part in reducing home fire losses, say fire officials:

• Store combustibles properly — store all flammable liquids in approved containers and in safe locations. Never stack combustibles near a heat source.

• Be careful with electricity — do not overload outlets, never run extension cord under rups, through door jambs, behind radiators or across heavy

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Coming up

Fire Prevention Week is Oct. 6-12

display. The program will include mov-les, refreshments, helium balloons and door prizes.

"The purpose of this event is to make the public more aware of fire problems and the solutions to those problems," Baldwin said.

THE EVENTS schedule will be:

© Noon — Doors open.

© 12:30 p.m. — Fire extinguisher demonstration.

© 12:45 p.m. — Jaws of Life (auto extraction). xtraction).

1 p.m. — Aerial rescue show.
1:15 p.m. — Cardiopulmonary especifation demonstration.

• 2 p.m. - Fire extinguisher dem-• 2:15 p.m. — Jaws of Life (auto ex-

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The Farmington Hills Fire Department has scheduled a full afternon of furthly oriented activities at its head-furthly oriented activities at its head-furthly oriented activities at its head-furthly oriented activities of the fire free mental who had been activities of the property of the first forget the camera," said Lt. Peter Baldwin. Parking will be allowed on Drake and in subdivisions near the fire station.

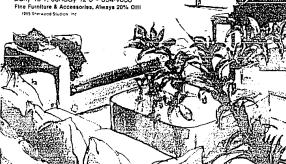
Sparky the Fire Dog and Robbie the Robot will answer questions and provide entertainment. The department's apparatus and equipment will be on

2:45 p.m. — Cardiopulmonary resuscitation demonstration.
 4 p.m. — Doors close.
 Meanwhile, free smoke detectors and installation is available for Farmington Hills residents. Call the community development office at 473-8503.
 Several school programs also are planned in conjunction with the week in Farmington Hills.

In Farmington, the Department of Public Safety welcomes requests for a school or class assembly on fire safety. Call Commander Michael Wiggins at 474-4700.

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