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that there is more pressure on me because of my dad, but I like going out on calls with him."

Mike's father, Bob, said the family has become used to the unusual hours and interruptions to family activities.

"We made plans for Christmas Eve and we were called to a fire," Bob Rebtzy said. "We thought it wasn't likely that we would be called out again on New Year's Eve, but we were. So my wife brought out coffee."

Mike Rebtzy, who served in operation Desert Storm, would like to be a firefighter, but is studying helicopter mechanics in case he can't become a full-time firefighter.

"It's hard to get hired full-time," Mike Rebtzy said. "But being paid-on-call is a great second job."

Farmington Hills Police Chief Bill Dwyer, whose son David is an officer in Franklin Village, said he's proud of his profession and happy his son chose police work. But as a veteran police officer, he has seen the pitfalls.

"You're not going to get rich, but hopefully you'll have a steady job," Dwyer said. "It's always a challenge, but there are temptations. Some officers develop an alcohol problem. Some women are attracted to the uniform. There are different pressures. That's why you'll see a lot of officers marry other officers."

David Dwyer, who like his father started with the Detroit Police, said his father never pushed him into police work.

"I wanted to do something where I could help people," David Dwyer said. "Being a police officer in the suburbs is different because you are proactive rather than reactive. You have a lot of contact with the public."

Proud of son's choice
Some officers, like West Bloomfield officer Bob Spencer, didn't plan to be police officers. It just suited their personality.
"I never really gave it much



SHARON LEHRER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Hard at work: As a police cadet, Stacey Swanderski answers telephones and makes reports. She'll be an officer soon.

thought," said Spencer, who like his father, Farmington Hills Deputy Chief Mimi Spencer, started as an MP in the Army. "I signed a contract with the Army to guarantee that I would be an MP. That gave me the experience."

Mimi Spencer said while he had some concerns over the safety of police work, he was proud of his son's choice.

"You know that they get the best training available," Mimi

Spencer said. "If he enjoys it as much as I do, then he made the right choice."

"The safety concern is always there," said West Bloomfield Police Chief Ron Cronin, whose son Scott is a Farmington Hills officer.

Despite the boredom punctuated by times of extreme stress, firefighters and young officers agreed that they are happy to follow in their parents' footsteps.

"I really like the idea that I am helping someone," Bob Spencer said. "Sometimes in a domestic situation, you really feel like you shouldn't be there. But you have to keep the peace."

Mike Rebtzy said his moonlighting job as a firefighter has more satisfactions than many full-time jobs.

"We go on medical runs and give CPR," Rebtzy said. "You really feel like you've made a difference in someone's life."

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"I'd like it to be like going to grandma's house," Lovill said. "If you destroy what you're investing in... what's the point?"

One option is to get a variance. Lovill would have to go before the board of zoning appeals, which meets the first Wednesday of the month (next meeting Aug. 4). She could ask to be allowed to use the parking lot behind JoAnn Fabrics.

Frank Clappison, a partner in Center Holding Company, which owns the property, said he would not object to a variance.

"If it becomes a problem and my tenants complain, I would

have to take action," Clappison said. "She (Lovill) understands that."

Other steps have to be taken, too.

The site plan would have to be reviewed by the historical commission for recommendations. Also, the business would need to satisfy state barrier codes.

"We all think it's a good idea," said assistant city manager Robert Schultz. "The (downtown development authority) is pushing for it. The DDA thinks it's a good use of the building."

"There's a number of hurdles she has to negotiate, though."

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into a longterm contract that could cost the city more over the long run.

"I don't think we should lock ourselves into a 15-year contract," councilman Jon Grant said.

But councilmen Larry Lichtman and Ben Marks said they would rather have the 15-year contract.

"Usually I would say yes to the shorter term," Lichtman said. "But I don't think there is much competition in this industry and I think it will be even less competitive in five years."

Marks said locking into a 15-year contract would provide the city with more security, because the cost would be a given.

Under the terms of a new five-year contract, the most per single family unit per year would be \$127.36 for solid waste, recycling

and composting in 1993-94. The cost would be \$124.66 under the 15-year agreement. If Farmington Hills did not take either option, the cost would be \$136.57 this year. Taxes account for the bulk of that cost with recycling/composting fees at \$48.76 under the current plan, \$45.47 under the proposed five-year plan and \$44.50 under the 15-year plan.

The agreement allows Waste Management to increase the fee up to 3 percent each year whether it is five or 15 years, and the city can pull out of the agreement within six months of giving notice at any time throughout the life of the contract.

The contract will be on the July 12 regular meeting agenda. The authority cities must decide the issue by Aug. 1.

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