

Library revs up for a winter of activity

By Denise Moll
special writer

Now that October is here, programs and offerings are in full swing at both libraries.

For children, both libraries will be offering programs open to all in both the preschool and elementary category. At the Farmington Branch, preschoolers can attend "It's a E-Z as A-B-C," a session of alphabet stories, films and songs, from 10:30-11 a.m. on Friday. The can also go to a Halloween party from 2-3:30 p.m. on Oct. 28. Come in costume for Halloween stories and fun. A similar party will be offered at the Farmington Hills Library at 10:30 a.m. on Oct. 28.

For elementary age children, the Farmington Hills Branch will present "Stories Spring to Life," stories made into films, from 2-3 p.m. on Saturday. Films to be featured are "Sneaky Nona," "The Red Balloon," and "The Reluctant Dragon." And on from 2:30 p.m. Oct. 23, kids are asked to come in costume for a Halloween party featuring frightening films and scary stories.

At the Farmington Branch, the elementary program on Oct. 18 will focus on "Animal Adventures," featuring "The Adventures of J. Thaddeus Toad" and "The Cricket in Times Square." Registration for the section of limited enrollment children's sessions begins Oct. 22. Registration is in-person only from 10 a.m. to noon that day; thereafter by telephone at the branch where the program you desire is being offered. Farmington and

Farmington Hills patrons are given first preference. These programs which feature story hours and activity sessions are repeats of programs being offered throughout October. Check with your children's librarian for specific program offerings and age requirements.

For young adults, the Farmington Branch will be presenting a workshop on model rocketry from 2-4 p.m. on Saturday. Tom Pilon of Joe's Hobby Center in Farmington, will speak on types of rockets and demonstrate a launch. Registration is required; call 474-7770.

"TAKING CARE OF YOUR FACE," a workshop on skin care and make-up for young adult and adult women, will be offered at the Farmington Branch at 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 18. Beauty consultant Cindy Hargis will lecture and demonstrate techniques. Register by calling 474-7770.

On Oct. 26, the Young Adult Department will present a showing of the feature film "Night of the Living Dead," from 7-9 p.m. at the Farmington Hills Library. This Halloween treat is open to all ages; for further information, call 553-0300.

Nuclear power and its use are growing concerns in today's society. A two-part program on this subject will be featured at the Farmington Hills Library 7:30-9:30 p.m. Oct. 11. Subjects to be discussed will include the possible effects of a nuclear holocaust on Oct. 11. Call 474-7770 for further information.

THE ADULT BOOK discussion group continues to meet at the Farmington Branch Library on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to noon. Books to be discussed month are "Julia's People" by Nadine Gordimer on Oct. 7, and Kathy Cronkite's "On the Edge of the Spotlight" on Oct. 21. Anyone who has read the books is welcome to attend any session; call Bev Pappal for more information.

library line

Two programs for parents of preschoolers will be offered jointly by the children's department of the Farmington Hills Library and the Preschool Committee of Farmington Youth Assistance. The first, "Mommy, Can I?" will feature Stephanie Riley, head of Lawry Preschool at Oakland University, discussing preschool child development from 7:30-9 p.m. tonight at the Farmington Hills Library. The Hills branch will also host two preschool activities workshops on Oct. 23. Featuring Dan Hodgins, early childhood education instructor at Mott College, the program will be divided into two sessions, "Art Comes Alive" from 10:30-noon, and "Let's Move and Groove," from 1-2:30 p.m. Participants should bring a bag lunch, coffee, tea and lemonade will be provided. A \$3 registration fee must be paid at time of registration; registrations will be taken in person only in the children's department of the Farmington Hills Branch.

Magazine will warn consumers of products tainted with PBB

By Gary M. Cates
staff writer

Consumers concerned about PBB levels in food products now can subscribe to a PBB awareness report.

Jim Todaro of Livonia and Dan Timpt of Ypsilanti, have started Toxic Food Watch, a bi-monthly report on PBB (polybrominated biphenyl) levels found in foods purchased from stores.

The purpose of Toxic Food Watch is to help consumers identify foods which contain PBB, even if they fall below legally permissible levels.

"We believe people want to avoid PBB at any tolerance level," said Todaro, a 27-year-old self-employed accountant.

PBB, the fire retardant chemical which was accidentally mixed with dairy feed in the early 1970s, poisoned thousands of Michigan cattle, sheep, pigs and chickens.

The poisoning occurred when Velsicol, a mid-Michigan chemical company, mistook bags of PBB for bags of feed additive. The mistake was caught only after the PBB tainted feed had been used.

While many of the infected animals were slaughtered and buried in clay pits, traces of PBB were, and still are, being found in food.

Now, some ten years after the poisoning, health officials believe at least 97 percent of all Michigan residents have been infected with the chemical.

Michigan lawmakers restricted the amount of PBB allowed in meat products to 20 parts per billion after the chemical mix-up occurred.

However, that state law expired last month, dropping the accepted PBB level to the federal standard of 300 parts per billion.

Todaro's interest in PBB testing stems from a Sept. 12, 1982 Detroit News article on PBB levels found in foods.

"After reading the article, we thought somebody should do some testing. We wanted to see. Nobody was going to do testing so we decided maybe we should," he said.

The two men plan to use subscription money (\$20 for six bi-monthly issues or \$5 for one) to pay for independent testing of foods found on supermarket shelves. Toxic Food Watch will use the Environmental Research Group laboratories in Ann Arbor.

"The problem with state testing is that they only check to see if foods exceed the maximum levels," said Todaro.

"I don't know if anybody will believe the state's testing anyway. That's why we decided to use an independent testing group," he said.

PBB testing should be done on foods in the supermarkets, rather than testing of animals on farm sites, he said.

"We want to see how far down the food chain the PBB goes."

"If you just stay there PBB at Harry's farm, the shopper has no idea about Harry's farm. She doesn't know who Harry sells his foods to."

"We want to tell her brand names. We want a market-basket survey of foods," he said.

Toxic Food Watch officially started last Wednesday, when the two men placed an ad in a Detroit newspaper, Todaro said.

"We are currently trying to build up a subscriber list," he said.

"As of Monday we had 15 subscribers. We're hoping for a minimum of 200. We didn't get the volume we were hoping for."

People interested in more information about Toxic Food Watch can call Todaro at 425-9783, or write Toxic Food Watch, 440 N. Main, Suite 204, Plymouth, 48170.

Todaro hopes to publish on a regular basis.

Broomfield honored by small business

U.S. Rep. William Broomfield has earned the "Guardian of Small Business" award and an endorsement for re-election from the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) for his voting record on small-business issues.

The nation's largest small-business group presented Broomfield with the award because he voted with a majority of NFIB members 80 percent of the time.

On announcing the award, NFIB President Wilbur Johnson said, "The voting record of Rep. Broomfield in this Congress demonstrates that he is responsive to the needs of his state, because small businesses create the ma-

jority of new jobs and, if left to flourish, will be a major factor in restoring economic growth."

House members were rated on 22 recorded votes during this session of Congress. Issues ranged from cutting the budget to raising unemployment taxes and forcing the government to pay its bills on time. Those members of Congress who did not have recorded votes on at least 70 percent of the issues included in the ratings were not eligible for the award.

NFIB is a non-profit, non-partisan organization representing 20,542 small-business owners in Michigan and more than a half-million independent businesses across the country.

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