



Fearless forecast: (above) In the "Madeline and the Gypsies" room, Highmeadow Common Campus fifth grade teacher Karen Farber (left) portrays a gypsy who reads the fortune of student Kristen McKelvey.



American lit: (left) Farmington school board member Gary Sharp took on the role of George Washington and read "So, You Want to be President?" to a group of students in the Highmeadow media center.

'Literature Extravaganza' proves popular

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The first "Literature Extravaganza" at Highmeadow Common Campus was a hit, with 500 people coming out for an evening of fun and games, all with a reading connection.

"It went great," said Highmeadow parent Cathy Roshak. "We had more people than we thought we'd have, and so many people told us it was one of the best events we've ever had at Highmeadow."

Roshak helped coordinate the PTA-sponsored program with media center spe-

cialist Sue Kalisky and parent Geri Pensley to help toast March is Reading Month.

Pensley said one of the most-popular of 11 activity rooms was one featuring Miss Frizzle (teacher Tess Kelly) and the Magic School Bus — complete with an exploding, papier-mâché volcano.

There also were rooms with children's book characters such as Arthur and Madeline, a Harry Potter room; one where students and their parents made tissue paper butterflies, like those made in Eric Carle illustrations; and a reading in the media center by school board member

Gary Sharp as George Washington.

Sharp, in 18th-century garb, read *So, You Want to be President!*, the 2001 Caldecott Medal Book.

Also wowing the students during the March 16 program were presentations — featuring live bats — by Dale Smart of the Organization for Bat Conservation.

"He had three bats, and he took two of them out of their cages," said Roshak, noting that the presentations were connected to the children's book about a bat, *Stellaluna* by Janell Cannon. "He demonstrated how big bats get and that they are not as big as people think."

POLICE & FIRE

LARCENY

A Triangle Development project manager told police that two mahogany doors worth \$6,500 and 250 wrought iron spindles worth \$2,500 were missing from a home construction site at 24900 Middlebelt. Seven windows were broken by shots from a BB or pellet gun. The theft and vandalism occurred between March 16 and 19.

CAR/DEER ACCIDENT

A 61-year-old West Bloomfield woman driving a 1999 Lexus hit a deer at 7:30 p.m. March 18 on southbound Northwestern Highway south of 13 Mile Road. The woman and her 91-year-old passenger were not injured.

SEX ASSAULT

A 45-year-old Farmington Hills woman told police that a 55-year-old man grabbed her buttocks with both hands March 3 while she worked out at Powerhouse Gym, 24385 Halsted. The man reportedly said, "Let's see how well you have been working out here," as he grabbed the woman.

Farmington Hills police were notified by the Family Independence Agency office in Macomb County that a Shelby Township woman reported a Farmington Hills man sexually assaulted her 14-year-old, "severely emotionally impaired" daughter.

The woman said the assailant was the girl's brother-in-law. He touched her breast through her clothes and attempted to get on top of her, the report said. The incident occurred at the man's Farmington Hills apartment.

SEXUAL ASSAULT

Three Farmington High School girls told police that a gas station clerk has frequently touched their breasts and buttocks in exchange for letting them buy cigarettes.

The girls said that the man,

who they believe to be in his mid 40s, would ask for a hug, then grope them.

One girl said, "The reason I never really spoke out was because I never saw it as anything out of the ordinary because it's common knowledge that (he) is a pervert. I was only 15, and (that gas station) was the only access to cigarettes that I had."

BREAK-IN

The resident of a house in the 26000 block of Drake told police that someone broke in between 2:30 p.m. and 4 p.m. March 22 and stole a wallet from her daughter's room and a video game from her son's room. Nothing else was reported missing. Police found the screen on the daughter's window torn.

HOUSE FIRE

A Farmington Hills woman sustained injuries Thursday, March 22, while trying to put out a fire in her home, 22109 Tredwell, before firefighters arrived and finished the job.

Firefighters arrived at 6:43 p.m., four minutes after getting the call, and had the fire under control at 8:51 p.m. The fire originated in the kitchen. Damage is estimated at \$150,000.

CANDLE FIRE

On Thursday at 6:40 p.m., Farmington Hills Stations 3 and 5 responded to a kitchen fire at 22109 Tredwell. On arrival, they found a 53-year-old woman outside the home suffering from smoke inhalation. She stated that a candle had toppled over in the kitchen and had ignited some papers. She attempted to extinguish the fire prior to calling 911.

Firefighters contained the blaze to the kitchen despite heavy smoke damage throughout the house.

Volunteers needed for horse program

Volunteers are needed for the Oakland County 4-H Horse power program at Bloomfield Open Hunt, Long Lake at Kensington Road, Bloomfield Hills.

This acclaimed program helps disabled children and adults gain confidence and therapeutic benefits from horseback riding under the supervision of a certi-

fied instructor.

Caring, enthusiastic adults and teens are invited to volunteer as assistants. They don't need experience with horses.

Horse Power holds classes each Monday evening at 6:45 and 8:00 p.m.

For details or to volunteer, call (248) 858-0889.

On April 5th, women will be the main event.

More women are stepping into power positions than ever before. Some of them will be sharing their stories during Women's future's MainEvent 2001. A global forum on women's leadership issues, the Detroit event will be hosted by WDIV's Carmen Harlan, and features: Nancy Cantor — Executive VP for Academic Affairs, UM
Judy L. Hu — Executive Director, Advertising & Marketing, GM
Denise Ilitch — President, Ilitch Holdings
Eleanor Josaltis — Co-founder, Executive Director of Focus:HOPE
Dr. Antonia Novello — Commissioner of Health for New York
Shirley Stancato — President, New Detroit — and many more.
GM is proud to sponsor what is sure to be a highly informative and lively discussion.
So join us at the Renaissance Center Marriott, April 5, 2001.

Tickets and information available at www.womenfuture.com or call 1-877-604-6520.

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