

Fire causes \$200,000 to house on Shiawassee

BY SUE BUCK
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A blaze that damaged what's been described as "the biggest house" on Shiawassee was the first house fire in the City of Farmington this year.

The home, which was recently renovated, caught fire around

11:20 a.m. on March 30. The two-story dwelling, now boarded up, is located on the south side of Shiawassee between Power and Prospect.

Goss said the homeowner spotted flames while outside working on landscaping, then went to a neighbor's house to call 911. The call came into the department as a hang-up call, Goss said.

"There was an officer in the area who noticed the fire and called it in," Goss said. "The garage was fully involved. It was under control in an hour."

About \$200,000 damage was done to the \$400,000 home, but fortunately no one was injured. Even though one was sleeping in the bedroom over the garage, both children in the house got

out safely, Goss said.

The homeowner at first tried to hook up the garden hose to douse the fire, but realized it was shut off.

Goss believes the electric stove in the attached garage was the source of the fire.

A baking stone was being used to cook pizzas.

The fire spread to two five-gal-

lon cans of gasoline and spread to storage shelves in the garage.

"The fire extended up to the bedrooms and the roof," Goss said. "Most of the roof is gone."

The kitchen was also damaged.

The home was well-constructed with double dry wall, Goss said. The fire was contained to the east side of the house.


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'Grizzly Adams' visit delights students

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Dan Haggerty, star of the TV show "Grizzly Adams" came for a visit recently to Gill Elementary in Farmington.

He spoke to students in Nancy Berkech's second grade class. The visit was arranged by Robert Cortis, executive producer of Patriotic Productions in Whitmore Lake. Taylor Cortis, Robert's daughter, is in Berkech's class.

Though many of the students hadn't seen the show, they wrote their impressions of Haggerty. "He was doing magic tricks

and he even did tongue twisters," wrote Erika Cyr.

"I feel happy to meet him," wrote Kara Devito. "I am excited. He can do magic."

Taylor also wrote her thoughts:

"I feel good to meet Grizzly Adams in my classroom. This is so cool. Wow! He could do tongue twisters. He could do magic, too. He was funny. I loved it. He brought my dad. He had his own show. He was in lots of movies. He was a good man. I like him. This is super. We got pictures with him. We got a group photo. It might be in the newspaper. Now that's a good experience."

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Grizzly visit: Pictured with Dan Haggerty (back row third from left) are Robert Cortis and his daughter, Taylor, Naomi Johnson, Kuwan Taylor, Patrick Hicks, Nikki Cischke and Erika Cyr and (front) Sharad Nair, Sean Cutina, Affan Imran, Alex Berger, Jonathan Woo, Kara Devito and Johanna Thompson.

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