



Students who participated in the snowman activity are: Back row-Maddie Boerema, Anikka Andersson, Meghan Webster, Joshua Bause, and Savannah Eskosky; front row-Zachary Marvin, Kevin Heslip, Kelly Mau, Connor Riegel, and Jocelyn Tucker.

## Mayfair Co-op kids create snowmen stories

BY SUE BUCK  
STAFF WRITER

Play-dough snowmen and blank books formed the basis of a pre-reading exercise at Mayfair Co-op Preschool recently.

Children in the enrichment class decorated the snowmen created from the school's tried and true play-dough recipe. Students dictated stories to their parents, who had brought along an assortment of supplies.

"Remember we went to the store with an M? Michael's?" asked mom Kathy Marvin of her son, Zachary.

Children posed for Polaroid photos with their decorated snowmen, whose snowball heads, middles and bottoms were held together with skewer sticks.

Maxine Flagg, known in class as "Miss Maxine," read the titled stories with the assistance of the student authors who remembered some of the words they dic-

tated to their parents. She held up a book generously treated with glue and glitter.

"Everyone's is so different," Flagg said.

The stories displayed student creativity and imagination. Parents heard tales about a snowman who traveled in a rocket ship, a snowman who eats cherry snowcones, one who is a cowboy and lives in Green Bay and a snowman named "Go Blue Snowman."

"His name is Go Blue Snowman because Daddy and I like Michigan football," said Joshua Bause. Sometimes his snowman eats real carrots but he never eats his nose, Joshua said.

Parent Marianne Tucker who recently put her passion for baking and event planning into "Panfare," a catering business with friend Polly Barnes, provided a tray full of holiday-decorated treats.

Flagg, the director, has taught at Mayfair since 1977. Stephanie Center and assis-

tant teachers Sande Neeley and Marilou Drewniak, who job share, are also on staff.

The co-op, located at 30450 Farmington Road in Farmington Hills, has served Farmington-area preschoolers and their families for more than 50 years. While located in back of Orchard United Methodist Church, it is not affiliated with the church.

Kathy Marvin spoke highly of the school. "There's 12 kids and full-time teachers," she said. "That makes a big difference."

Parents administer the school, make policy decisions and take part in the class sessions on a regular basis.

Classes are offered for Moms and tots as well as separate classes for children who are ages three and four and an enrichment class for those 4 1/2 and older.

For information, call (248) 626-2759.

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## Hills police department promotes officer, five cadets

BY PAUL R. PACE  
STAFF WRITER

Five Farmington Hills Police personnel were promoted Friday at a ceremony held at city hall.

Police Chief William Dwyer commended the group's performance, stating, "They have demonstrated competence, maturity and a strong desire to further serve the citizens of this city."

Officer David Stasch was promoted to sergeant. He is an 18-year veteran of the department. The 42-year-old has served in the Patrol Division, Traffic Section, Detective Section, and in the department's Criminal Surveillance Unit. He has a bachelor's degree in Community Development/Public Administration from Central Michigan University. Stasch will assume shift supervisory duties in the Patrol Division.

Cadet Domenic Lauria was promoted to officer. The 24-year-old joined the depart-

ment in July 2000. Prior to attending the police academy, he had been assigned to the Patrol Division working at the Command Desk. He was also assigned to the property section of the Support Services Division. Lauria graduated from Rapid River High School in 1997 and received his associate's degree in criminal justice from Bay de Noc Community College in May 2000.

Cadet Debra Szymanski was promoted to officer. The 26-year-old joined the department in July 2000. Prior to attending the police academy, she had been assigned to the Patrol Division working at the Command Desk. Szymanski graduated from Sterling Heights Adlai Stevenson High School in 1995 and attended Macomb Community College where she obtained her bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Lake Superior State University in 1999.

Cadet Amanda Dettore was promoted to the rank of officer. The 25-year-old joined

the department in January 2001. Prior to attending the police academy, she had been assigned to the Patrol Division working at the Command Desk, the property section of the Support Services Division, and the Communications section. Dettore graduated from Ladywood High School in 1995. She received her bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and Psychology from Michigan State University in 1999.

Cadet Mark Kelly was promoted to officer. The 21-year-old joined the department in August 2001. Prior to attending the police academy, he has been assigned to the patrol division working at the command desk. Kelly graduated from Lakeland High School in 1998 and obtained his associate's degree in criminal justice from Oakland Community College in 2000.

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## Hills 'Winterfest' to feature chili cookoff

BY PAUL R. PACE  
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Hills' sponsored family events tend to have great turnouts with hundreds of families in attendance. But nothing big is usually offered in the winter-time.

That's about to change as the city's first "Winterfest" is set to take place at Heritage Park on Sunday, Jan. 12.

The city's Special Services Department is coordinating the winter event and tying in its popular chili cookoff contest, said Bryan Farmer, recreation supervisor.

He said while the department is "praying" for snow to be on the ground, it will take place with or without the white stuff.

The event takes place from 12:30-4:30 p.m. and will feature a campfire, hot dogs, smores, hot chocolate, downhill sledding time trials, ice skating, a hardest hockey shot contest, cross-country skiing, hands-on fun like a snowman building contest as well as arts and crafts and more.

If you have a winning chili recipe, pick up an application at the Costick Center, located on 11 Mile between

Middlebelt and Inkster between 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday.

The fee for the cookoff is \$10 per entry. Entry requests must be submitted by Jan. 3. Proceeds will benefit the Mayors Youth Council.

Farmer said there will be a People's Choice award and another award offered by a panel of yet-to-be-named celebrity judges.

Heritage Park is located off Farmington Road, south of 11 Mile.

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