

'Guys and Dolls Jr.' opens May 1 at Power Middle School

BY SUE BUCK
STAFF WRITER

A popular 1950s Broadway musical makes its way to the stage at Power Middle School tonight, as students in the Drama Club perform *Guys and Dolls Jr.*

The show is being produced in cooperation with Music Theatre International of New York. Performances are scheduled at 7:30 p.m. May 1, 2, 7 and 8.

The original *Guys and Dolls* opened on Broadway on November 24, 1950. Written by Abe Burrows and Jo Swerling, the show's music and lyrics were written by Frank Loesser.

Based on Damon Runyon's short story, *The Idyll of Miss Sarah Brown*, the show centers on the unlikely romance of a pure-at-heart urban missionary, Sarah Brown, and slick Broadway gambler Sky Masterson, said director Janet Vogel.

"The show's second roman-

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Janet Vogel
director

tic story line involves Nathan Detroit and Miss Adelaide, who have been engaged for 14 years.

Nathan organizes "the oldest established, permanent floating crap game in New York," and Adelaide is the main attraction at the Hot

Box nightclub."

Lead roles will be played by Angie Bice, a seventh-grader (Sarah Brown), eighth-grader Nick Bringardner (Sky Masterson), seventh-grader Molly Donovan (Miss Adelaide) and sixth-grader Stu Surmann (Nathan Detroit).

The four leads will be joined by an additional 37 cast members, Vogel said. "Of course, behind the scenes there are an additional 20 students assisting with backstage crews of lights, sound, costume, makeup and set design and set building," Vogel said.

Assistant directors are Mallory Michalek and Amanda Blaker, both seventh-graders. Lights and sound are handled by Janine Miner, a paraprofessional. Art teacher Jean Feedle has designed and helped construct sets and props for the show.

Many parents are also helping out with the production:



Rusty Charlie (Spencer Moore) and Nicely-Nicely (Michael Lapinski) help Miss Adelaide (Molly Donovan) make a quick exit so they can do business with Nathan Detroit (Stu Surmann) and his floating crap game. *'Guys & Dolls Jr.'* is presented at Power Middle School, directed by Janet Vogel.

Kim Donovan, costumes; Roseanne Thomas and husband Mike Thomas, program design and creation; Donna Haapala, make-up; Joanna Chavez and Kari Griebel, props.

"This production is very special, not only because of

the large number of students and parents helping out, but also because, making his cameo debut in the show this year, is Mr. Bob Kovar, Power Middle School's assistant principal," Vogel said. "The cast is very excited to have Mr. Kovar in the show."

Tickets for the production of *Guys and Dolls Jr.* may be purchased at the door the nights of the show. Adult tickets are \$5 and student tickets, \$3.

For more information, call Power Middle School at (248) 489-3629.

Police open house set for Sunday

The 16th-annual Police Department Open House runs from noon-4 p.m. Sunday, May 4, at the Farmington Hills Police Headquarters at 11 Mile and Orchard Lake.

The popular family event is free of charge. Among the activities include a visit from the Oakland County Sheriff's Department's Mounted/ Marine division, the Farmington Hills Canine Division, MSP Swat vehicle, the

Farmington Hills Fire Department, the U.S. Secret Service, Air Force F16 (miniature) and McGruff, the Crime Dog.

There will also be child fingerprinting, raffles, timed pitching and other games for children. Despite recent work on the east side parking lot of the City Hall complex, there should be plenty of parking available for the event, police said.

Harrison parents focus on hot topics

BY SUE BUCK
STAFF WRITER

A group of Harrison High parents and staff took another step toward debunking myths about the school, which they say are perpetuated by outsiders.

They initially met on March 31 at Harrison. On April 28, Principal Rande Horn ranked several subjects mentioned by parents, including discipline, consequences and consistency. Horn explained a different kind of consequence applies with the first offense for one student and the sixth for another student.

Theresa McFarland asked

Horn what parents could do to assist.

Horn mentioned the District will be reviewing its discipline policy at an upcoming School Board study session. Also, Harrison students will create a video about conduct on May 14 that could be used for both parents and students.

Parents could assist with that video, Horn told McFarland. He also suggested volunteering as tutors or ambassadors who could lend building tours. About 30 Harrison students tutor district elementary students at Lanigan Elementary.

"Every single teacher at Lanigan Elementary has a tutor from Harrison High School

there," Horn said.

Another aspect is simply keeping kids on the right track.

"We try to keep ourselves thinking professionally about what we are trying to accomplish with kids," Horn said. "We're trying to educate them."

Staff members discuss with students what they want to do in the future and how to accomplish those goals, he said. Harrison has a designated "planning room" where teachers can send students to design a plan for their future.

Harrison's parent focus group will meet again in August. For more information or to participate, call Horn at (248) 489-3504.

PTA Council hosts candidate forum

BY SUE BUCK
STAFF WRITER

The Farmington PTA Council will hold its annual school board candidate forum at 7 p.m. Monday, May 19 in the board room of the school administration building.

The building is located on Shilwassee, east of Farmington Road. A social reception will precede the question and answer session, from 6:30-7 p.m.

"We're hoping a lot of people turn out," said Kim Heath,

president of the PTA Council. Michael Bridges of the PTA will moderate. All candidates were provided a list of four questions which the PTA will ask. Questions will also be taken from the audience.

Each candidate will have a maximum of two minutes to respond.

Provided questions are:
■ What do you hope to accomplish as a member of the Farmington Board of Education?
■ What areas do you

believe Farmington Public Schools should improve upon?

■ We live in an era of tight fiscal responsibility. As a board member, how would you balance fiscal responsibility with quality educational choices?

■ What do you believe the main legislative issue should be for public education? The candidate forum will be taped for later play on Channel 10.

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