

# Rhyme time

## Mayors read stories, help celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday



STAFF PHOTOS BY BILL HARRIS

Story-telling mayors: Both area mayors got into the Dr. Seuss swing to celebrate the children's book author's birthday and the Read Across America program. Farmington Mayor Pro-Tem Jim Mitchell (left) entertained the crowd at the downtown Farmington branch of the Farmington Community Library. In photo above right, Farmington Hills Mayor Nancy Bates reads a Dr. Seuss story to Sumitra Gata at the community library's branch on 12 Mile Road. At far right, Kim and Kurt Couture and kids Meghan, Grace and Claire enjoy Mitchell's reading of Dr. Seuss.

You're never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read with a child.

This rhythmic fact was proven last Thursday when Farmington Mayor Pro-Tem Jim Mitchell and Farmington Hills Mayor Nancy Bates read to local students. Mitchell and Bates read at the Farmington and Farmington Hills branches, respectively, of the Farmington Community Library.

Dignitaries across the country read to children for the National Education Association's Read Across America program. The third-annual event celebrated

the March 2 birth of a children's book author who liked to rhyme all the time, Dr. Seuss.

This year's Read Across America proved the brassiest and sassiest yet, with rock stars reading at the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame and hundreds of thousands of teachers across the country hosting classroom celebrations.

NEA research shows that the more children read, the better they read; and the more children read outside of school, the better they do in school.

All this knowledge may send these kids to college.



### RECREATION NEWS

#### OPEN GYM

The Costick Activities Center in Farmington Hills offers the following activities and times: Adult Basketball, 7:30-9:03 p.m. Thursdays and 9-11 a.m. Sundays; Teen Basketball, 5-5 p.m. Saturdays and 1-2 p.m. Sundays; Adult Volleyball, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Family Gym and Swim, 12:03-3 p.m. Saturdays. The cost to participate for residents 17 and under is \$2 and \$4

for non-residents. For 18 and over residents pay \$3 and non-residents pay \$5. For more information contact the Farmington Hills Department of Special Services at 473-9570.

#### PARKY EASTON

The Parky Easton Eggravaganza will be held Saturday, April 15. Activities will include

snacks, games, a craft project, storytelling and an Easter Egg Hunt. 3-5 year-olds are scheduled from 10-11:30 a.m. and 6-10 year-olds are scheduled from 12:30-2 p.m. Call 473-9570.

#### ROCK CLIMB TRIP

Ages 12 and up can learn how to rock climb with knowledgeable instructors at Pinnet Rock

on Tuesday, March 28. Vans will depart from the Costick Activities Center at 4:30 p.m. and return at 9:15 p.m. The deadline to register is March 17. The fee is \$35 per person. Call 473-9570.

#### SKATING TRIP

Ages 12 and up can take a trip to Airborne Skate Park on March 29, leaving the Costick

Activities Center at 6 p.m. and returning at 10:30 p.m. The deadline to register is March 17. The fee is \$15 per person who has equipment (helmet, elbow, wrist, and kneepads).

The cost is \$24 per person for those without equipment. For additional information call the Recreation Division at 473-9570.

#### ADULT SOFTBALL

New team registration is currently under way. Call 473-9570.

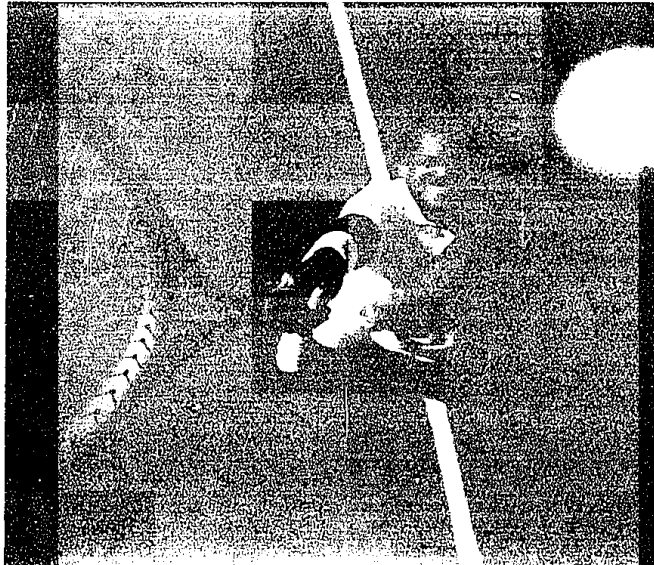
#### YOUTH SOCCER

Registration for K-1 and second and third grade soccer. The six-game schedule begins April 20. The fee is \$25 per child.

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