

# Dreamzzz fund-raiser nets six figures

In spectacular style, Farmington-based non-profit Sweet Dreamzzz netted over \$100,000 at its first-ever "Night to R.E.Member" fund-raising event March 21.

Held at the Detroit Science Center, the gala featured speakers Gov. Jennifer Granholm and Detroit Free Press columnist Mitch Albom. Guests toured the Center's Titanic artifacts exhibit and viewed the film, "Titanica."

Major sponsors Ford Motor Co., which contributed \$50,000 cash and WJR radio, which contributed \$50,000 in air time, have already committed to next year's event, organizers said.

Funding will help Sweet Dreamzzz "breathe a little easier," said Director of Operations Nancy Maxwell, and allow volunteers to continue providing the best possible assistance to needy children.

## HONOR

FROM PAGE A1

sleepy child has difficulty learning," said Richard L. Gelula, executive director of the National Sleep Foundation. "Because of the efforts of Sweet Dreamzzz, thousands of children in Detroit now have what many of us take for granted—the means for a comfortable and restful night's sleep. This program is a model for other cities and communities around the country."

Sweet Dreamzzz next sleep kit distribution in May, sponsored by Fifth/Third Bank, will be conducted at the Detroit Children's Museum. Children will be bussed to the Museum, where they'll pick up their kits and learn how to get a good night's sleep.

Maxwell said any business can sponsor a distribution day, providing financial support and/or volunteers. For more information, call Sweet Dreamzzz at (248) 478-3242.

Sweet Dreamzzz works with the Sleep Disorder and Research Center at Henry Ford Hospital to train the staff and volunteers, who present the educational piece on the same day as the bed kit delivery.

Volunteers perform skits to illustrate sleep tips and a "Sleep Teacher" visits classrooms to discuss the importance of developing good sleep habits.

Sweet Dreamzzz has also extended the program to the Detroit Police Department, where officers are armed with

bed kits to give to children in need. The Detroit Salvation Army also receives bed kits for their Women and Children's homeless shelter.

To learn more about the organization, volunteer or donate, call (248) 478-3242. Detroit is the fifth winner of the Healthy Sleep Capital Award, presented annually during National Sleep Awareness Week (March 31-April 6) to acknowledge outstanding efforts to promote and educate the public about healthy sleep. National Sleep Awareness

Week is sponsored annually by NSF to raise awareness about the importance of sufficient and regular sleep and the diagnoses and treatment of sleep problems.

The week ends with the return to Daylight Saving Time on the first Sunday in April, when millions of Americans are at risk of losing an hour of needed sleep.

For more information about NSF, visit [www.sleepfoundation.org](http://www.sleepfoundation.org)

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## FAIR

FROM PAGE A1

day Saints have a strong philosophy about being self-reliant and helping others.

"For years we've been supplying food and emergency cash for somebody who loses a job or is in need," he said.

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## CAR

FROM PAGE A1

Enter Bob Rebtzy, longtime Farmington Hills fireman, and currently assistant to the Hills fire chief.

Rebtzy has six vintage Ford cars, and his 1923 all-black Model T Touring Car will be in the play.

Mark Johnson, WBHS' auditorium technical director, started looking for a car over the Internet. One place he tried was the Model T Club of America Web site. He contacted about 15 Michigan people, and ended up with a phone call from Rebtzy.

"It was a message out of the 'blue,'" Johnson said. "Mr. Rebtzy called and said 'I think I might be able to help you.'" Turns out Johnson and Rebtzy live a few blocks apart in Farmington Hills.

Rebtzy said he is pleased to help the school, and was expected to deliver the car a few days before the opening night. It will be drained of gasoline and will have the battery removed to insure safety indoors.

Rebtzy, who has been a fireman for 35 years, came to the vintage Ford car hobby late in life. He got his first old car in 1995.

"I love showing the cars, and I like the era of the cars. It seems to me to be a shame to have these cars and not show them as much as possible." Rebtzy has been in many recent Woodward Dream Cruises, Founders Festival parades, and even takes to cars to senior citizen facilities. "They like the nostalgia," he explains.

Currently, Rebtzy owns:  
■ A 1917 Model T speedster.  
■ A 1923 Model T Touring Car (convertible), the one that will be in the play.  
■ A 1925 four-door Model T (hardtop).  
■ A 1926 Model T Huckerster (a delivery type truck with beautiful hand-made ash wood cab and truck bed).  
■ A 1928 Model A Roadster with a rumble seat.

■ A 1931 Model A all red fire chief's car.

Rebtzy also has a Ford Tractor, vintage 1949, and he expects one or more of his cars will be at the big Ford Centennial this June in Dearborn.

The musical will be staged 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 10, 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, April 11-12, and 2 p.m. Saturday. All tickets are \$7.

The theater is in the high school, 4928 Orchard Lake Road.

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