



PEA Advocate

Friday, March 2, Celebrate "Read Across America"!!



Morgan Freeman to chair "Read Across America for NEA"

Morgan Freeman, star of the current hit movie *Nurse Betty*, as well as the American classic *Driving Miss Daisy*, will be behind the wheel as chairperson of the National Education Association's (NEA) Read Across America for 2001.



Freeman's career as a character actor began, appropriately enough, as "Easy Reader," a role he created for the widely acclaimed PBS series *The Electric Company* in the 1970s. Since then his award-winning career has included roles with the Broadway, on television, and in movies.

Freeman says that the "Easy Reader" character "holds a special place in my heart not only because of the creative opportunity it offered, but because of the chance the role gave me to promote the joy of reading

Beauty and the Beast
On Saturday, February 3, 83 members and their families took part in an exciting trip in New York City to see the Broadway production of Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" at the Lunt-Fontanne Theatre.

After a 10am departure from the Middle School, we arrived in the city with plenty of time to take in the many sights and sounds New York has to offer. Many opted to use this time to fill their bellies with the succulent Italian cuisine at Carmine's, the delicious American flavor at The Playwright Tavern, or share in the festivities at the Irish Pig'N Whistle Pub, to name just a few of the many eateries available to us.

Regardless of what we did or where we ate, it all paled in comparison to the beautiful and expertly done performance of Belle, the Beast and the entire ensemble. The seats were good, the company was excellent and the experience was one of a life time.

2001 Theme

"Oh, The Places You'll Go"

Our theme for 2001 is, "Oh, The Places You'll Go." Published in 1990 by Dr. Seuss, this beloved book offers a wealth of wisdom on setting goals and meeting challenges, and with gentle humor reminds readers about the endless possibilities life has to offer. The message has special meaning for Read Across America, because to get to the places you want to go in life, you need to know how to read!



NEA President Bob Chase said: "NEA is honored to have someone of Morgan Freeman's caliber lend his talent and voice to Read Across America. His willingness to carve out time from an already hectic schedule to make room for reading will be an inspiration to the millions of teachers, librarians, parents, and students of all ages who have made NEA's Read Across America one of the nation's premier literacy events."

Freeman's career as a character actor began, appropriately enough, as "Easy Reader," a role he created for the widely acclaimed PBS series *The Electric Company* in the 1970s. Since then his award-winning career has included roles with the

OFFICERS:

President: John Pokrivchak Middle School	Vice-President: Doug Morris High School	Treasurer: Barbara Alderfer Middle School	Recording Secretary: Debbie Carty Freeman School	Corresponding Secretary: Linda Snyder Andover-Morris
---	--	--	---	---

President's Letter

"The Usual Suspects"

In the movie "Casablanca", Claude Raines said "Round up the usual suspects."

No matter what the crime, there was a standard list of possible suspects. We have a similar situation in our association.

Every two years we hold our PEA elections in April. And almost every election year, the same names surface. Alderfer, Carty, Chilmonik, Kaulius, Kruczek, Mertz, Morris, Munley, Pokrivchak and Snyder. These are the people who held office in recent years, currently serve as officers or will likely run for office in the near future. Many of us are in our forties and fifties. We won't always be willing to step forward when we need new officers. Unless more of our members, especially those in their twenties and thirties, become active in the PEA business, I have serious concerns for the future of our organization. NJEA provides excellent training activities for our members. I urge you to step forward and get involved in any way possible. There is far more that you can do other than paying your dues faithfully.

I believe that Casablanca will always have its share of shady characters lurking in the dark. I wonder if the PEA will always have such a sizable list of "the

Andover-Morris

This year Andover Morris Elementary School is having a week full of activities for the National Education Association sponsored READ ACROSS AMERICA. Starting on Monday, February 26th, and ending

on Dr. Seuss' birthday, March 2nd, the children of Andover Morris will be immersed in the world of books and reading.

The following is the schedule of our events:

Monday - TEACHER SWITCH - teachers will read to classes other than their own.

Tuesday - PARENT DAY - each class will have guest parents read to the children and help the children make "Cat in the Hat" necklaces.

Wednesday - BOOK SWAP - each child will bring a used paperback book to be exchanged with another child.

DEAR - Drop Everything and Read

OPERATION ACCESS - from 6:00 - 7:00 pm the children will be told stories by guest storytellers and celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday with a birthday cake.

Thursday - DR. SEUSS ACTIVITY PACKET - each child will be able to do various activities related to Dr. Seuss and his books.

Friday - CELEBRITY READERS - each classroom will have a celebrity reader and discuss the importance of books.

It will be a great week for EVERYONE.

Next week the Middle School will be conducting a BOOK SWAP for its 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students as part of the READ ACROSS AMERICA celebration.

Freeman School

Each classroom will be choosing a favorite author and decorating its room for READ ACROSS AMERICA day.

Teachers will be creating bulletin boards, classroom wall displays, hallway bulletin boards or anything else they desire to display concerning the chosen author. Every area is fair game, except for the windows on the doors. During the day, teachers and their classes

the building and visit the other "authors"

As an added bonus, the reading committee will donate one book written by the favorite author to the classroom library.

Middle School

We would love to supplement the "swapped" books with additional donated books. If your children have "outgrown" Dear America, Fear Street, R.L. Stine, Lois Duncan, Lurlene McDaniel and other "middle school level" books, we would love to accept your donations. Please send them to the middle school library before March 2nd.

NEA/RA

On Wednesday, February 21, members of the association elected Treasurer Barbara Alderfer, Vice-President Doug Morris and WCEA Treasurer Mike Kruczek, to represent the PEA and NJEA at the NEA Convention.

The convention will be held in Los Angeles and will go from July 2-7, 2001.

Association Reps:

Andover-Morris:

Michelle Thatcher

Barber School:

Marilyn Shober

Custodians:

Robin Schofield

Freeman School:

Gail Barbadora

Green Street:

Linda Exley

Lili Mortimer

Karen Volkert

High School:

Sue Brooks

George Chilmonik

C. Brad Howard

George Pavlinsky

Elaine Strahle

Middle School:

Jennifer DiBiase

Rick Rissmiller

Roseann Rohm

Mary Louise Sharpe

Secretaries:

Marguerite Scannell

Paraprofessionals:

Dolores Streader

Special Services:

S. Alexander/D. Hatch



NJEA Newsletter Program/2000-'01 Participant

Editor: Doug Morris