Kids can learn to listen with talking feathers

BY MYRNA PETLICKI | Contributor

Children will learn the role that talking feathers played in encouraging listening skills at the next Kids Craft Mornings, 11 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 6 and 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. Sunday, April 7 at Mitchell Museum of the American Indian, 3001 Central St., Evanston.

“The talking feather was traditionally used in the Plains and other tribes to give each member of the tribe an opportunity to talk for as long as they needed to talk,” Executive Director Kathleen McDonald said. “When they had possession of the talking feather, it was their turn to hold the floor. Everyone else was to listen.”

Young museum visitors will create their own talking feathers. “Kids will be taking a large feather and decorating the end so it becomes a handle,” McDonald explained.

The Kids Craft Mornings, with a different project each weekend, are free with museum admission of $5 for adults, $3 for seniors, students and children.

For details, call (847) 475-1030 or go to www.mitchellmuseum.org.

TINY TELLERS OF TALES

The Pied Piper of Hamelin, The Dream Peddler and Casey at the Bat are three stars of “Shoes, Ships and Sealing Wax,” which will be presented by the Melikin Puppets, 10 to 11 a.m. Saturday, April 6 at Northbrook Public Library, 1201 Cedar Lane. The drop-in program is for kindergartners and up.

For details, call (847) 272-6224 or go to www.northbrook.info.

GOOD NIGHT

Bring your kids, ages 7 and older, to Starry Starry Night for a great view of the sky after dark, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Saturday, April 6 at Heller Nature Center, 2821 Ridge Road, Highland Park. You’ll tour the night sky from the Starlab portable planetarium and hear stories about the constellations. The cost is $8 per person. Registration is required.

For details, call (847) 433-6901 or go to www.pdhp.org.

STRING STARS

Violist Caitlin Adamson and cellist Lucie Ticho will be the featured artists at the Young Steinway Concert, 3 to 4:45 p.m. Sunday, April 7 in the Petty Auditorium at the Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St. Adamson is a senior at North Shore Country Day School in Winnetka. Ticho is a Hinsdale Central High School freshman.

For details, call (847) 673-7774 or go to www.skokiepubliclibrary.org.

BUBBLE, BUBBLE FUN

Kindergartners and first-graders will explore bubbles at Hands-On Science: Bubbles, 4 to 4:45 p.m. April 11 at Wilmette Public Library, 1242 Wilmette Ave. There will be demonstrations and activities. Registration is required.

For details, call (847) 256-5025 or go to www.wilmette.lib.il.us.