

Poetry Alive Scheduled November 7 At Gaston County Public Library

Their name, Poetry Alive! says it all. Or, they could be called "Poetry In Motion". Two casually-dressed, tennis-shoed performers whose gentle ambient echoes of the bards of old. Almost off-handedly, as if poetry were the language of everyday, they take center-stage, and an evening of dynamic, delightful entertainment begins.

On Tuesday, November 7, Poetry Alive! appears in the Auditorium of the Gaston County Public Library, 1555 East Garrison

Boulevard in Gastonia, at 7 p.m. for a free public performance. Designated as an "adult program," the Nov. 7th performance is, explains Bob Falls, the group's Managing Director, "somewhat of a 'PG-13' evening, with nothing outright risqué, but some of the poems we'll present are pretty strong stuff." The evening's entertainment includes a wide range of types and periods of poetry, from Shakespeare, Emily Dickinson, and Roberto Service, to Langston

Hughes, Elizabeth Bishop, and Etheridge Knight.

The Asheville-based Poetry Alive! group was founded in 1984 by Falls and North Carolina native Jim Nave, whose innate love of the rhythm, the majesty, the drama, and the humanness of poetry inspired them to reach out, primarily to school students, to "bring to life the reality of poetry as communication of human spirit and emotion." The group has now grown to five teams of performers, who travel from Los Angeles to Cape Cod during the year, bringing forthright, attention-getting shows of drama and humor to children and adults. National Public Radio has likened Poetry Alive! to "in-person MTV", a gauge of the immediacy of the performance.

Poetry Alive! is appearing in nine elementary Gaston County Schools Nov. 6/8, courtesy of the Gaston County Public Library, the

United Arts Council of Gaston County, Gaston County Schools, and the Friends of the Gaston County Public Library. This arts-in-education experience, disguised as entertainment on the move, will expose third- through six-graders

to the laughter, adventure, suspense, and pure joy of poetry presented as the spoken word — just as it was presented by the bards of yesteryear.

The "adult" performance of November 7 is a special opportunity

for area folk to settle back and watch those dry words from the dusty poem books come, literally, to life, animated by professionals whose love of poetry communicates the commonality of the human experience.

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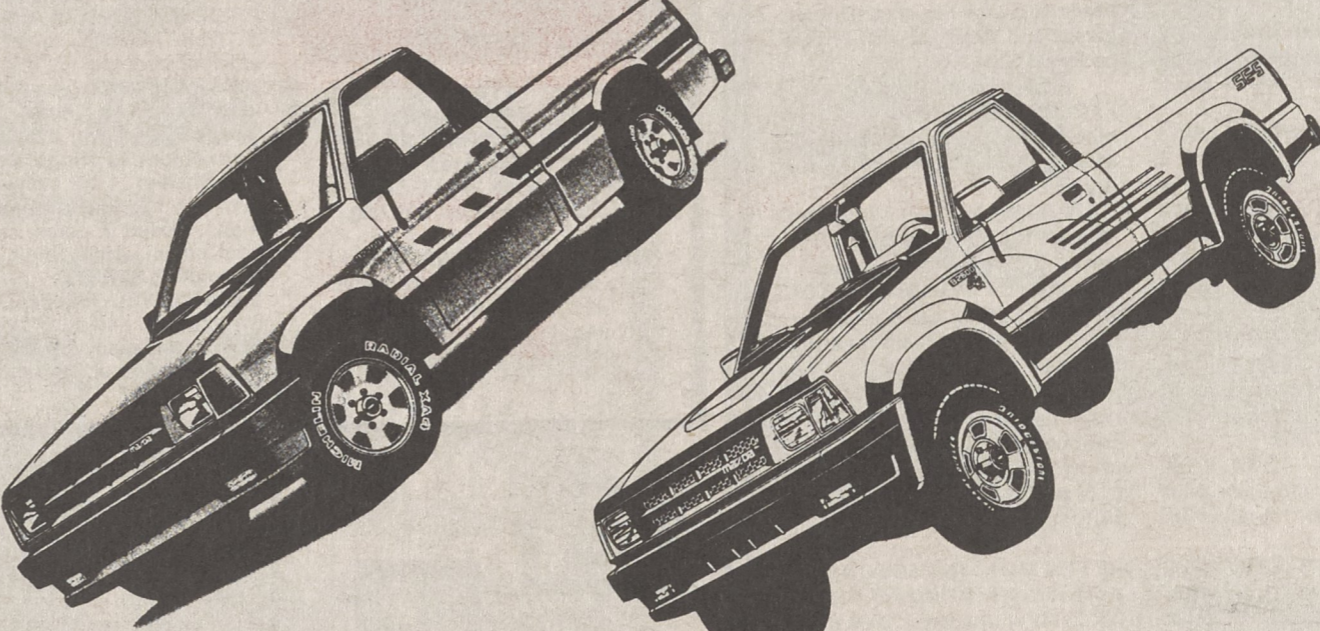
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