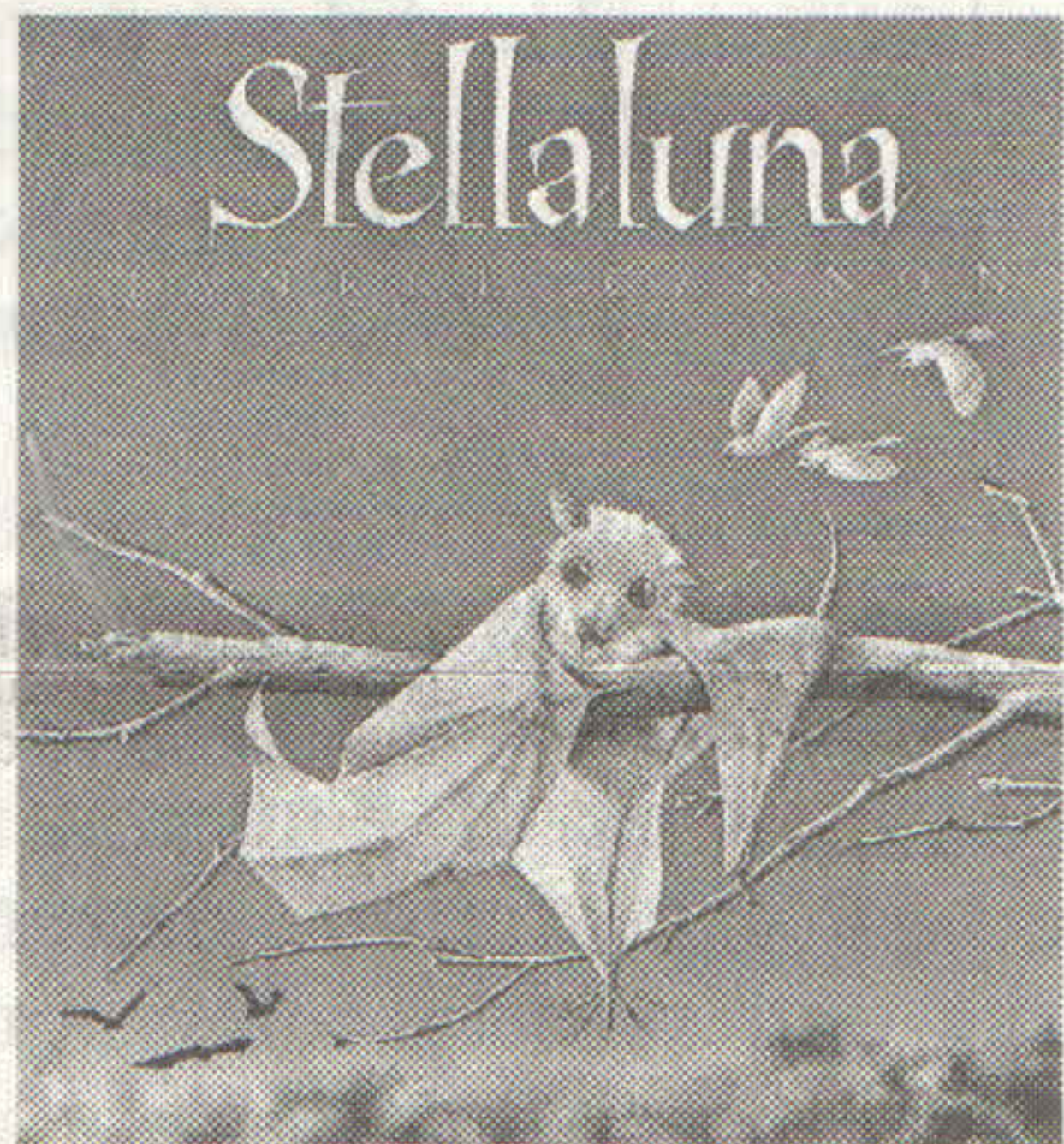




# The Village School's Children's Book of the Month



**Stellaluna, written and illustrated by Janell Cannon**

**Book reviewed by Leanne Limoges**

*Leanne Limoges is a preschool teacher at the Village School*

Stellaluna is a beautiful picture book, written and illustrated by Janell Cannon. The story begins with a baby fruit bat named Stellaluna. She is being carried by her mother when an owl attacks the mother and separates the two of them. Luckily Stellaluna falls into a nest of three baby birds. The mother bird allows her to stay on the condition that Stellaluna acts like a bird and gives up her bat ways. This is where the reader begins to see the similarities and differences between bats and birds.

Through the amusing story and whimsical pictures, the reader feels empathy towards Stellaluna and is humored by her adventure with her new adopted siblings. The reader follows her through many trials and hardships, to be rewarded in the end with a joyful reunion between Stellaluna and her mother.

As a parent and preschool teacher I feel that this book is a must-have for the classroom or home bookshelf. This book is perfect for preschool and early elementary aged children. The beautiful detailed illustrations capture the attention of the children while the compelling story holds their attention until the very end. Stellaluna is a great original story that has captivated the hearts of many a reader including myself and my own children who are now grown, but still love the book. This read-aloud book is a bedtime classic. You can find it at Bruce's Browser in uptown Athol.

If you want to discover more classic children's literature, come to the Village School open house on Saturday, Feb. 7, from 10 a.m. to noon. The classroom teachers can give you a tour of their class libraries, and even give you a list of favorite children's books. Village School students love to read! And the school has a great selection of children's books, for ages 3 to 12.