

# Suburban Life

Loralne McClash editor/477-5450



Monday, June 24, 1985 O&E

(F)58

## Summer: A good time for reading

### Kids' clubs offer a challenge

By Julie Brown  
staff writer

Summer is a busy time for children at the Farmington Community Library.

Both the Farmington and Farmington Hills library branches draw their share of youngsters throughout the summer months. The library's Summer Reading Clubs help bring the children in.

"The Reading Club is the biggest happening for the summer," said Marilyn Kiefer, children's librarian/department head for the Farmington Hills branch. "They wait for it from year to year."

This year's theme for the reading club is "Buccaneers and Books" for the older children. The "From the Crow's Nest" club is designed for younger children who cannot yet read independently.

As of Friday morning, 368 youngsters had registered for "Buccaneers and Books" at the Farmington Hills branch, with 213 registered at the Farmington branch. Registration figures for "From the Crow's Nest" were 160 at the Farmington Hills branch and 97 at the Farmington branch.

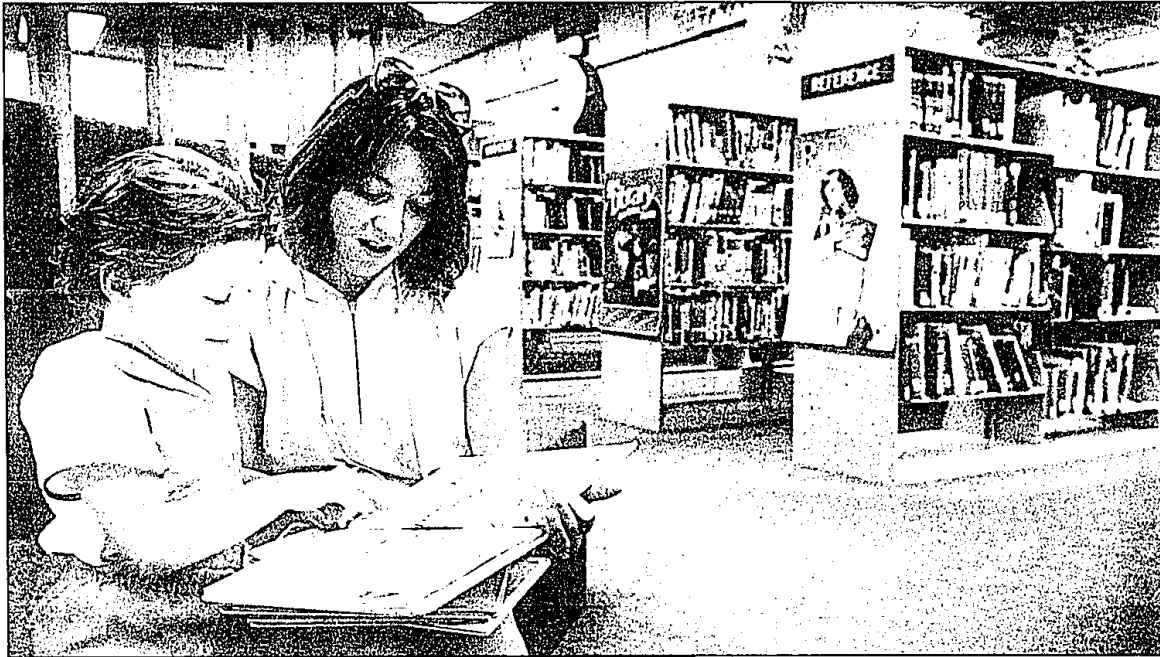
EACH YEAR'S Reading Club theme is chosen by the Wayne Oakland Library Federation, Kiefer said.

"It's voted on by a committee of children's librarians."

The Reading Clubs are designed to encourage youngsters to read. Presentations were made at local elementary schools near the end of the school year, to let children know about the program.

The presentations included a slide/tape program, telling the story of a youngster who "earns his freedom" — if having finished the school year. He then goes on a treasure hunt, finding a variety of treasures at the library branches.

"The most rewarding and fun part was to show it in the schools, to see how well it was received," Kiefer said. "They just loved it."



Holly Blaisdell, 6, is one of many local children who will spend a part of their summer in the company of good books. Holly and her mother, Gina, recently visited the Farmington Hills library branch.

RANDY BORST/staff photographer

THE READING CLUB programs begin this week and will continue through early August when club parties are scheduled. Children who fulfill the requirements of reading and reporting on books will be invited to the party.

"Every week there's a different theme for the programs," Kiefer said. "The programs are geared toward the different age levels."

In addition to reading books and giving reports, the youngsters watch films

and participate in crafts activities. For each two books read, "Buccaneers and Books" participants will get a chance to guess the number of gold nuggets in a treasure chest in a library display case. The five youngsters with the closest guesses will win gift certificates for paperback books.

"So that really gets them reading," Kiefer said.

"We ask for a goal of how many books they want to read for the summer. It's not uncommon to get into the high numbers."

LIBRARY STAFFERS encourage youngsters to read a variety of books during the summer. For younger children, a beginning readers section is available.

"Once they get acquainted with reading and like it, there's plenty here for them to read," Kiefer said. "That's what keeps them coming back and

reading, when they have positive experiences."

Many of the youngsters who visit the library have definite ideas about what they'd like to read.

"They come in and they know exactly what they like," she said. "It's fun to work with them."

The hobby books are popular ones with the youngsters, she said. Camping books are also in demand this time of

year, as are books on spring/summer sports.

"There's just so much here for children, and they really use it," Kiefer said.

(Those who wish to register for the Summer Reading Clubs should do so at the library branch where they intend to do their reporting. The deadline for reporting on books is 9 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 1.)

## Library shelves hold a variety of books for children

Both branches of the Farmington Community Library have a variety of lists of suggested books for children of all ages. These are some of the new titles available at the Farmington Hills branch:

For younger readers (Kindergarten through third grade):

- Judy Blume, "The Pain and the Great One"

The conflict between brothers and sisters is explored.

- Joanna Cole, "Bony-Legs"

A retelling of a Russian folk tale about a little girl who escapes from a terrible witch named Bony-Legs.

- Ed Emberley, "Ed Emberley's Picture Pie"

Shows how to create birds, animals, snowmen and fish by cutting a basic circle into arcs and curves.

- Wilson Gage, "The Crow and Mrs. Gaddy"

A farmer and a crow spend all their time playing tricks on each other and go with the idea.

- Tana Hoban, "Is It Rough? Is It Smooth? Is It Shiny?"

Color photographs without text introduce objects of different textures in this new learning concept book.

- Bennett Lee Hopkins, "Surprises"

Easy to read poems by such poets as Myra Cohn Livingston, Aileen Fisher and Karla Kuskin, among others.

- Shirley Hughes, "Alfie Gives a Hand"

Attending his first birthday party without his mother, Alfie must decide whether or not to give up his security blanket to help a friend.

- Thatcher Hurd, "Mama Don't Allow"

A noisy saxophone player and three of his friends form a combo and are invited to play at the alligator ball, and learn that they are destined to become the main course.

- Trinka Hakes Noble, "Jimmy's Boa Bounces Back"

Jimmy's pet boa constrictor returns to create delightful havoc at a garden club meeting.

- Chris Van Allsburg, "The Mysteries of Harris Burdick"

A series of curious and remarkable black and white pictures by the award-winning author/illustrator.

- For intermediate readers (grades four-six)

- Beverly Cleary, "Ramona Forever"

Another delightful story about Ramona's life and adventures.

- Robert Burch, "Christmas with Ida Early"

More fun and zany escapades with Ida Early and the Sutton family.

- Roald Dahl, "The Witches"

A young orphan and his cigar-smok-

ing grandmother expose a coven of witches and the Grand High witch.

- Constance Greene, "Isabelle Shows Her Stuff"

All the gang from "Isabelle the Witch" is back for more silly adventures. Isabelle offers to teach a friend the art of being a pest.

- Bette Bao Lord, "In the Year of the Boar & Jackie Robinson"

A heart-warming story of a young Chinese girl who moves to America with her family and her adjustment to a new culture and language.

- Jack Prelutsky, "The New Kid on the Block"

A collection of nonsense poems about the likes of Baloney Belly Billy and the Gloopy Gloopers.

- For older readers (grades six-eight)

- John Bellairs, "The Curse of the Blue Figurine"

A mysterious blue figurine leads a young boy on a terrifying mystery-adventure.

- Beverly Butler, "Ghost Cat"

Fourteen-year-old Annabel unravels a mystery involving an abandoned house, a crying cat, suspicions of murder, and her own grandparents.

- Fred D'ignazio, "Invent Your Own Computer Games"

Explains how to use a personal computer to create original games, with instructions for programming.

- Robin McKinley, "The Hero and the Crown"

A "prequel" to "The Blue Sword." A fantasy story of a young heroine who engages in a dragon-killing quest.

- Susanne Beth Pfeiffer, "Truth or Dare"

When 11-year-old Cathy starts at a new junior high school, she tries to re-

place her two best friends with the "perfect" Jessica.

- Jerry Spinelli, "Who Put that Hair in my Toothbrush?"

Sibling rivalry between a 12-year-old and her older brother reaches a peak when she ruins his science project and

he throws her favorite hockey stick into a pond.

- Rosemary Sutcliff, "Bonnie Dundee"

A spellbinding historical tale about John Claverhouse, a Scottish Royalist who fought to keep the House of Stuart on the Scottish throne.

## Hills resident honored for work

Tina Jensen has been named "Volunteer of the Month" by the Farmington Community Center in recognition of her extensive volunteer participation in both center and community activities.

Currently a member of the board of directors, Jensen co-chairs the house and grounds committee and the center garden council, and frequently participates in center beautification projects.

A Western Michigan University alumna, Jensen is also active in a variety of other organizations.

She is a member of the Nardin Park United Methodist Church, FTA, the Farmington Square Sub Advisory Board, Farmington Families in Action and the Farmington Hills Junior Women's Club, of which she is a past president.

In 1984, she was chosen "State Junior Volunteer of the Year" from among more than 500 junior clubwomen.

Jensen, a former teacher, lives in Farmington Hills with her husband, Richard, and their two children.



Tina Jensen

News that's closer to home • News that's closer to home • News

Thursday, June 27 & Friday, June 28  
10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Saturday, June 29  
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

# SIDE-WALK SALE

Arbuckle Square

Northwestern Hwy.  
Bet. 12 & 13 MI., Southfield

See you at the Square

Banjo player

Big Bargains

JAZZ TRIO THURS 6-9

BANJO SING-ALONG FRI 6-9