FARMINGTON COMMUNITY LIBRARY EVENTS

■ National Library Week Cel-ebration - Farmington Youth

Theater

The Farmington Youth Theater will thrill the audience with a performance of Doorway to Atlantis, in which two young people stumble upon a doorway into the future where humans live underwater and the struggle for freedom continues. Performances are scheduled at the Main Library at 7 p.m., Tuesday, April 3, and at the Farmington Branch at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 4.

Spring Break Fundart in the

Spring Break Fun/Art in the

Children ages 5-12 are invited to try different art projects at the Main Library from 2-4 p.m. Tuesday, April 17, and at the

Farmington Branch from 2-4 p.m. Wednesday, April 18. Super Saturday Storytimes

■ Super Saturday Storytimes
Children of all ages are invited
to bring someone special to the
Main Library at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, April 21, for "Windy
Weather" with wonderful stories
of spring: make a kite, windseck
and other "windy' projects. Kids
can also enjoy stories and other
animal fun in "Let's Get Animal"
at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, April 28,
at the Farmington Branch.
■ Responsible Babysitting

at the Farmington Branch.

Besponsible Babysitting
Young adults, 10-17 years, can
learn the ins and outs of working as a sitter from 4-5:30 p.m.
April 16, 17 and 18 at the Farmington Branch Library, or 7-8:30
p.m. April 26, May 3 and May 10

at the Main Library. A certifi-cate is awarded to participants who complete: "Planning Babysitting/Emergency Situa-tions," "Infant Care," and "Inte-grating with Children." Please call to register.

Jobs and Career Resources

Get expert information from Michael Evola, corporate recruiting officer, and Caren Moran, recruiting coordinator, and Farmington Hills Libraries to help you in your quest at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 4, at the Main Library. Call to register.

■ Great Books Discussion

Join other reading enthusiasts for a discussion of Derek Walcott's Poetry at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 19, at the Main Library.



side to side: Shelly Rabe demonstrates tooth care tooth care
techniques at
Longacre Elementary
School. Rabe,
who works for
Livonia Village Dental,
took her traveling tooth
care show on eting tooth
care show on
the road to
teach kids
about nutrition and good
habits to protect their teeth.

Longacre kids learn good dental habits

STATY WHIPES

It can't be easy trying persuading first graders to forego sweets for veggies. But it's all in a day's work for a dental hygienist who Monday visited Longacre' Elementary School.

Shelly Rabe of Livonia Village Dental brought a variety of learning aids — such as giant tech — to emphasize to youngsters the importance of starting early when it comes to sensible dental hygieno habits.

Rabe works for Dr. Herb Gardner, who provided her with various toothbrushes, dental floss and other trinkets distributed to students in the classrooms of first-grade teachers Tracy Baden, Lise Haskin and Heldi Pulh.

While youngsters wotched

Puhl. While youngsters watched

Livonia

Kids Eat FREE

on Easter Sunday!

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Colgato's The Incredible Journey video featuring an "acid monstor that attacks your teeth," Rabe explained the foew of her talk.

"The main emphasis today is on nutrition, good and bad snacks and how to take care of their teeth," said Rabe, whose son, Brett, attends first grade at Longacre.

Other revelations served up by "Miss Shelly" included: Too much juice can create plaque build-up and cavities; Tap water contains decay-fighting fluoride whereas commercially bottled water does not.

At the end of her third talk of the morning, she reminded youngsters to eat sweets in moderation.

"Cotton candy, candy hars and

eration.

"Cotton candy, candy bars and pop, they're all loaded with sugar. Save those for the special times, like going to the carnival."

But, noting that most kide probably won't avoid the sweet stuff, Rabe urged them to "brush tarth ahrd" if they do partake. Wearing Livonia Village Dental's trademark "Smiles Are Our Business" logo on her shirt, the Farmington resident then revealed her perfectly healthy smile and reason for visiting classrooms on a regular basis. "It's my community work," she said with a glowing smile.

Gill from page A1

Tough decision

Tough decision

Although there appeared to be considerable anguish and handwringing — Secretary Gary Sharp said he felt like a fish "lijp-flopping" out of water while trying to make his decision – the board voted 5-2 to end a program that was popular with a small core of families but not growing in enrollment numbers to sustain it.

Sharp and Treasurer Jack Inch voted to extend the life of the program. But even those who voted to pull the plug apoke glowingly about Gill Year-Round as a concept.

School board Fresident Frankeld, whose son attends and

Round as a concept.

School board President Frank
Reid, whose son attends and
loves the Gill Year-Round program, only supported Maxfield's
recommendation because of
hard, cold facts: Enrollment for
2001-02 was 11 students short
of the minimum 120 students;
the cost to keep the program
going was excessive (\$200,000);
there were prospects of combination classes in grades threefive due to the plummets.

It was the duclining enrollment that those grades threefive due to the plummets.

It was the duclining enrollment that made the biggest
impact on Reid, who then
referred to a progressive new
social studies curriculum
expected to be approved at the
next board meeting.

With the prospect of having a
lot of split classes – especially
with the challenging curriculum
- it will be hard for our teachers
to make this work, 'Reid said.

Can we effectively deliver the
curriculum in an environment
with many split classes? The
answer is no.*

Bottom line

answer is no.

Bottom line

"This is the toughest year financially we've had in the six years I've been on the board," and Vice President Linda Enberg.

Trustee Cathy Webb acknowledged the hard work of Gill Year-Round parent volunteers who helped recruit 35 new students for next year, a push that began after a November 2000 meeting with Maxfield. A March deadline was established and parents went to work.

Parent Lynn Halton outlined benefits of the year-round concept, citing research from the National Association of Year-Round Education. Since 1985, year-round education has grown nationwide from 411 to 3,059 schools, a 646-perent growth over 15 years.

She also reiterated their recent sales pitch.

The program, which includes the same number of instructional days (183) as in traditional schools, is touted finators such as drawing families to the district who are looking for an optional school clendar.

It reduces teacher and student burnout, builds a close-knit community, provides families to the district who are looking for an optional school clendar.

It reduces teacher and student burnout, builds a close-knit community, provides families with vecation options (there are three two-week inter-session breaks during the school year), develops strong student friend-ships, features a great faculty staff and enhances learning retention due to the shorter gap between school years.

Come to the Botsford **Health Care Continuum**

OB FAIR

find out about opportunities for: RNs, Medical Assistants, Unit Secretaries Phlebotomists, Pharmacists and many more.

Monday, April 2

3:30 - 6:30pm

Community Room, Zieger Center **Botsford General Hospital** 28050 Grand River Ave., Farmington Hills

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