

# Dental News & VIEWS™

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## We'll Help Your Children Get an **A+** On Their “Oral Exams”!

We can help your children **avoid unnecessary pain, compromised health and future dental emergencies with routine six-months exams and oral hygiene education.**

**T**ooth decay is the single most common chronic childhood disease, **affecting nearly 60% of children in the United States!**

One California study showed that **60% of school-age children missed at least one day of school due to a dental problem.** A recent Massachusetts study of 3,439 third-graders showed that **26% of those students evaluated had untreated decay!**

Left untreated, **cavities can lead to severe pain, chewing difficulty, bad breath and an unsightly smile.** Ignoring tooth decay can adversely affect a child's concentration, learning, speech, self-esteem, and even their overall health.

After all, **tooth decay is a bacterial infection!**



### Give Your Family “Something to Smile About”!

Many parents ignore baby teeth because they eventually fall out. However, **the decay or premature loss of baby teeth can affect the alignment of a child's permanent teeth.**

Regular dental visits are important because younger children are often

unable to verbalize their dental pain... and your older children may not get around to mentioning anything until a root canal or extraction is needed!

We know it might be a challenge to keep your teens on top of their oral health, but it **will** make a difference in their appearance, self-confidence and overall well-being. Plus, you'll save on dental expenses.

One phone call to our office takes the heat off of you. Let us do the talking! **We'll offer age-specific tips that will motivate your family to maintain healthier, more attractive smiles and fresher breath.**

Please include dental checkups as a part of your children's “Back-to-School” health screening. Give us a call today!! ♦

*Look Inside...*

to See How Much Regular Visits  
to Our Office Can Save You!!



# Big Dental *SAVINGS* Can Improve Your "HOME ECONOMICS"!

preventive dentistry is just like putting money in the bank!

**READ THIS & Never See "Cavities" the Same Again!!**

According to the DAC study, over a person's lifetime, the national average "cost" to maintain a restored cavity in the molar of a 10-year old can reach \$2,187 by the time he or she is age 79. That's just one tooth!

The study points out that since no permanent dental filling material exists, and you can't stop a cavity from advancing without a filling...ongoing maintenance of a filling can add up over a lifetime.

Old fillings can expand over time, causing tooth fractures. Decay can develop under old crowns and fillings.

Older restorations can also "wear out" and may need replacing.

The truth is that the gradual breakdown of a tooth can start with a small cavity! Even if your tooth is filled, it may eventually need a root canal, extraction, bridge or an implant later on in life.

**We Put YOU In Control!**

With healthy eating, good oral hygiene and twice-yearly dental exams, **cavities and their associated costs are entirely preventable!!**

If sprucing up your house, traveling, buying a newer model car, or saving for college sounds more appealing than spending your hard-earned money on preventable dental expenses, schedule your routine dental exam today. Start saving now! ❖

Let's face it: There's not much you can do about the rising cost of gas and other living expenses, however, there's *a lot* we can do to help *you save* on your family dental bills!

**Preventive dental care can potentially help you avoid thousands of dollars in future dental expenses!**

In fact, a recent study conducted by the *Data and Analysis Center (DAC)*, which has access to millions of Delta Dental claims, shows how



Chief veterinarian at the North Carolina Zoo, Dr. Mike Loomis (dark blue) uses an electric saw to trim Tomy's overgrown teeth. Tomy is partially anesthetized so he can remain sitting during the procedure.

Photo Courtesy of Tom Gillespie, NC Zoo

## HIPPO HERO Trims Tomy's Troubled Teeth!

Dr. Mike Loomis recently returned from a Puerto Rican zoo after performing another life-saving dental procedure on his 3,000-pound friend.

In fact, he's been treating 39-year-old Tomy the Hippo on a semi-regular basis for two decades!

While hippo teeth grow continuously in the wild, the problem is that Tomy has a "bad bite." So his

canine teeth overgrow through his upper lip, creating severe pain and making it hard for him to eat.

**But he's sure smiling NOW!**

Hippos aren't the only ones vulnerable to a bad bite. **We'll make sure your teeth are properly aligned to maximize your oral and overall health.** Schedule your dental visit today!! ❖

## START THE SCHOOL YEAR "RIGHT" ... with Sealants!



One of the most effective and exciting "preventive treatments" we can offer your children is "dental sealants"!

This ultra-thin, resin coating acts as a barrier to seal off the grooves of the chewing surfaces of your children's back teeth. That's usually the first place decay starts...

**Now would be a great time to have us apply their sealants and protect their teeth against decay-causing bacteria before the new school year begins!**

Just in case you were wondering, brushing and flossing do a great job of helping to remove food particles and plaque from the smooth surfaces of your teeth. **However, even diligent brushing can't clean the "pits and fissures" of back teeth.**

As long as the sealant remains intact, **areas protected with sealants will not decay!** The good news is, they can last several years!

Take advantage of this **proven, cost-effective way to protect both baby and permanent teeth.** Don't forget that adults who are susceptible to decay can *also* benefit from sealants.

Call us to find out if you're a candidate for dental sealants. Schedule your children's treatment today. **It's fast, painless and affordable!** ❖



"I Know I'm in Good Hands with My Dentist!"

by Joy Olson

I used to hate going to the dentist. In fact, I dreaded it! But, unfortunately I am a diabetic, so taking good care of my teeth and gums is extra important. Luckily, a friend referred me to my current dentist.

The first time I went to an appointment, they immediately made me feel comfortable, like I was part of their family and not just another patient.

"I was part of their family and not just another patient."

My dentist took the time to listen to my concerns and explain every procedure before anything was ever done.

They were gentle with all of my general and cosmetic procedures and made me feel so comfortable. They also worked with me and made the treatments I need affordable.

I don't fear the dentist anymore, because I know that I am in good hands when I visit my dentist!

I have and will continue to recommend them to everyone I know! ❖