



About Our Office

A monthly newsletter from the office of Drs. Gillespie and Martin, PA

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Introduction We feel that the best time for our patients to learn about dentistry is while you are in the office, and your comments have proven this to be correct. Please enjoy our latest monthly in-office newsletter!

Hot Topics

Discovery! Stem cell research is a hot topic in our society these days. Recent research reveals a discovery that baby teeth contain a rich supply of stem cells in their dental pulp. That unexpected discovery suggests that the cells of the temporary teeth children begin losing at around age six could be harvested for research. These cells are easily obtained since every person has his or her own “stockpile.” This news is exciting in that it may be possible to expand stem cell research while avoiding current political, moral and other objections some have to the use of embryonic stem cells. The Tooth Fairy may be paying a lot more for baby teeth in the near future!

Science Fiction! Researchers also are sowing the scientific seeds of “regenerative dentistry,” an attempt to bioengineer teeth and other parts of the mouth damaged by disease. Laboratories have reported early success producing tooth enamel, generating dentin and reconstituting diseased gum tissue, according to research reported in *The Lancet*, a British medical journal.

Technology! One of the truly amazing miracles of modern dentistry is the ability to replace lost teeth with dental implants. This second chance for teeth is literally changing the lives of people who were either uncomfortable with removable false teeth or are only missing a few teeth. In just a few months, these patients can experience renewed ability to chew as they did when they had their natural teeth. This feat is accomplished by placing artificial tooth roots, or implants, in the jawbone and allowing the body to integrate itself to the implant. After this occurs, we can simply place a crown or overdenture on the implant(s) and restore the ability to chew and smile with confidence. In instances replacing single teeth, no work is required on the surrounding teeth. If this type of dentistry is of interest to you, let us know—we can help!

Around the Office Our staff has just returned from the Hinman Dental Convention in Atlanta. This yearly event is one of the largest dental meetings in the U.S. and expertly combines an incredible amount of continuing education and trade information into one weekend. It also allows our staff a little R & R together outside the office—we spent some fun time hanging out with each other and had a wonderful dining experience at Nava in Buckhead!

Employee Spotlight Marlo Burdine, CDA, is originally from Detroit, MI, but she has lived in many places, such as Alameda, CA, Cincinnati, Greensboro, and Jacksonville, NC. As you can tell, she loves to travel! However, Marlo went to high school at Asheville High and has spent many years here--she just can't resist the pull of the Great Smoky Mountains. She received her dental certificate at AB Tech (she wanted a career change after 10 years in retail/management). Marlo's daughter, Shariyar, attends Evergreen Community Charter School. Her hobbies include traveling (of course!), reading, challenging the Nintendo Playstation, and surfing the Net.

Quote Unquote Spring is Nature's way of saying, “Let's Party!”—Robin Williams

We always welcome new additions to our practice family. Let us know if you have friends in need of a dental home!