

May 2008

Do I really need x-rays today? We are very sensitive to your concerns regarding radiation as well as the cost of radiographs. Our new digital radiographs have greatly increased in diagnostic value and reduced your exposure to radiation by 90%! Please be assured that our recommendations for x-rays are based on individual patient circumstances and scientific (statistical) evidence—NOT by insurance “standards”. Please feel free to ask us how we form our recommendations for you personally.

Congratulations to Danielle White and Missy Mohr! They are the winners of the first annual Susan Maples Health Careers Scholarship. Each application included an essay, two letters of recommendation as well as a minimum GPA. The top four finalists were interviewed here in our office. What a treat for us to meet with such awesome young people! Missy will be attending Northern Michigan University and plans to major in pre-pharmacy. Danielle’s passion is people and she will pursue a career in psychology at Grand Valley State University.

We’ve discovered more and more links between oral health and overall health. We complete a thorough assessment of your gum health or disease at every cleaning appointment because periodontal disease predisposes you to all of these: pneumonia, bronchitis, emphysema, diabetes, alzheimer’s and coronary artery disease. Also women with osteoporosis may be at higher risk for periodontal disease and vice versa. Periodontal disease during pregnancy has been associated with toxemia, pre-term delivery and lower infant birth weights. Feel free to ask us for more details—we’re totally dedicated to helping you be as healthy as you want to be.

Implants are a great dental solution for missing teeth. Dental implants can replace a single missing tooth or several missing teeth. They can also be used to anchor a full or partial denture, giving patients the ability to chew and smile confidently. Dental implant crowns are personally customized to match your natural enamel, tooth size and shape. Sound like space age dentistry? Actually, dental implants were invented in 1952 and have emerged to be the most predictable and non-invasive way to replace teeth. Did you know that five of our team members have a tooth that has been replaced with a dental implant? They are a great resource for information on the dental implant experience.

We’re headed back to camp again... It’s time to boost our learning by studying with national experts in *patient facilitation*. We’re studying with other high achieving dental team members from all over the US. Our camp takes place at a beautiful private retreat center in Harrison, Michigan. We’ll be honing our communication skills and clinical savvy so that we can serve you better. Our aim is to uncover our true potential in order to provide the very best care and service. If you want to hear more about camp, just ask us...

It’s Techno time! Do you find our telephone reminders for your upcoming appointments helpful OR would you prefer to receive a personalized e-mail and then e-mail us back to

confirm? It's now just as simple as a couple of clicks. Just let us know what works best for you.

News flash... The No Cavities Club is going digital!! Kodak has discontinued making Polaroid film so we have been forced into the 21st century. We value good nutrition and careful home care and we don't want our star patients to go unrecognized. We'll now take pictures with a digital camera and you'll see our "no cavities kids" on a digital photo frame in our reception area. Let us know if you have other ideas for recognition!

Take me out to the ballgame... Are you or your children involved in sports? How about wearing a custom athletic mouthguard? Each year mouthguards prevent more than 200,000 oral injuries among athletes. Custom fitted athletic mouthguards are a sure way to increase compliance in all contact sports such as football, basketball, hockey, soccer racquetball and lacrosse. Let us help you protect your beautiful smile.