

Congratulations to the 2009 college freshmen that won the Dr. Susan Maples Scholarship Awards. This year's recipients are Miss Jasmine Garza and Miss Kristin Kraushaar. Jasmine is attending Northern Arizona University and will be pursuing a career in medicine. She is the daughter of Olga and Rolando Garza. Kristin has chosen to attend Michigan State University to study psychology. She is the daughter of Lori Kraushaar and Mark Kraushaar.

We are honored to participate in The Delhi Township 2009 Business Expo on Wednesday, October 21st at Holt High School. It's a great opportunity to connect and collaborate with other area businesses. Our speaker this year is local celebrity, Jane Aldrich. Holt offers such a wonderful array of goods and services and it's a nice way to celebrate our community together. Come visit us at the expo between 6 and 8 pm.

This Fall, we, as a team have been re-constructing our personal mission statements. It's been a time of reflection and realignment. Steven Covey, author of Seven Habits for Highly Effective People refers to the personal mission statement as "magnetic north", referring to our own internal compass. It is a wonderful way to share with each other about how we want to live our lives, who we serve, and who we want to become.

Susan's off to her Safety Harbor Study Club. Each Fall Dr. Susan meets for three full days with a small group of highly skilled dentists from around the country and three Patient Advocate Facilitators. They start early in the morning and talk till the wee hours ALL about dentistry and dental practice management. You could say they are the epitome of a dental-nerd-support group. This year they will meet at the home of Dr. Fred Troxel, in Key West Florida. Have fun you dental nerds!

Thanks to our patient focus group participants! Our team has recently invited five patients at a time to join us for dinner and discussion. The first dinner was to help us understand patient's perceptions of our office culture and how we could be serving their dental health needs better. Several big ideas were brought forth such as adding a nutritionist to our office or our medical building. That's an idea that really appeals to us as a team. We're interested in *your* thoughts about nutrition support. What do *you* think?

Our second focus group was about the self-prophylaxis room we're building. We invited five moms to team with us in developing a highly effective skill-development program for each individual child. Our goal is to have 100% of our "regular" young patients graduate from high school with skills and knowledge to insure a lifetime of dental health. We are very excited about what's ahead. If you have ideas, at any time, about how we might better serve your child (and you), please let us know. We're all ears.

Here's medical information that bears repeating: If you have been diagnosed or treated for osteoporosis, let us collaborate with your physician for your future dental health. Bisphosphonates such as Fosomax, Fosomax D, Actonel, Boniva and Reclast are prescription drugs that are commonly prescribed. We need to know if you have **ever** taken these drugs, as you will have an increased dental surgery risk of jaw bone infection (osteonecrosis). And if you are considering this treatment option, let us help you foresee any surgical needs such as implants or extractions. We want to keep you strong and healthy!

We're so glad to have Casey back from her maternity leave! Caden Jeffrey joined the family of Jim, Casey and Cooper (2) Byrum. He's an angel and Cooper is enjoying having a little brother! What a busy time for the Byrum family.

