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Style your Smile

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DATES WE WILL BE CLOSED

October 20-23

November 26-27

December 22-29

Please call during these times if you have an emergency. We are always available.

The First Issue

Welcome to the first issue of "Style your Smile". We are so excited to be able to provide this for you, our patients. Our goal with this newsletter is to inform you, the patients, about the happenings in your dentist's office. It is our hope that through our newsletter we will be able to build better relationships with our patients by giving you bigger and better insight into our office as well as each staff member. We want you to feel more comfortable with our staff and Dr. Bishop when you visit our practice because you've gotten to know us better through our newsletter. In short, we want you, our wonderful patients, to know who we are. Like all newsletters we have provided several pieces of

good information. In the lower left hand corner you will see the dates our office will be closed. Since our newsletter is a quarterly newsletter we will include all the dates for the current quarter we will be closed. We hope this will provide you with excellent patient care because you will know in advance so we can handle any problems for you before they become emergencies. It is Murphy's Law, as we all know, that a tooth doesn't break until your dentist is on vacation. In the upper left hand side of our newsletter you will find Inside this Issue. This is a guide that will give you a quick overview of the articles included in the current newsletter. In each issue we hope to provide you with the most up to date clinical news

available in our office. As we provide new treatment options we want you our patients to be aware of what is available. We also want to provide our patients with information from our Schedule Coordinator and our Financial Coordinator. It is our hope that articles from Beth and Deborah will provide you with better understanding of insurance questions, financial options, and scheduling options. We will also be providing you with fun stuff. On the back of each newsletter you will find our Kids Korner. Please read that carefully for a special treat for your kids. In conclusion we hope you find this informative and fun. There should be something for everyone. Enjoy!

Hygiene School:Magen's Experience

After three years of being out of school it proves to be tough to get back into the basic routine of going to class, studying and taking tests. Although it was a challenge at times Dr. Bishop allowed me an awesome opportunity to attend the Alabama Dental Hygiene Program. In the state of Alabama, after a dental assistant works in an office for two years he or she is then able to apply for the ADHP or Alabama Dental Hygiene Program under the supervision and instruction of a qualified dentist. The program

requires the applicant to attend classes in Birmingham one week-end a month for a total of ten months. At that time if the student has passes the program then they are allowed to apply to take the ADHP board test which consists of three parts to a written exam and also a clinical exam where the applicant must perform a cleaning on an approved patient and then be graded on his or her ability. After long hours of class, studying, praying, test taking, and much in-office experience the task was accomplished.

I am now an Alabama licensed dental hygienist. Although the road was rough at times the outcome is totally worth the journey. Thanks again to Dr Bishop for this wonderful opportunity. -Magen



Introducing ViziLite Plus

On September 17, 2008 in addition to your conventional visual exam, we will begin offering oral cancer screenings using a test called ViziLite Plus. ViziLite Plus helps us to identify oral lesions at their earliest stage of development. When premalignant lesions or early stage oral cancer is found, treatment is simpler, less invasive, and more than 90% successful. You might ask who is at risk for oral cancer. Patients age 40 and older who use tobacco or consume alcohol or patients with a history of oral cancer have the highest risk of having oral cancer. Patients age 40 and

older who do not use tobacco or consume alcohol have a high risk of having oral cancer. Last but not least, patients age 18-39 who do not consume alcohol or use tobacco have an increased risk of having oral cancer. At your next appointment either Beth or Deborah will offer you a consent form when you sign in. You will be asked to read over this while you wait for your appointment. Either Lori or Reta will go over this form with you when you are called back for you hygiene appointment with them. After they have went over this form with you you will be

asked to sign a consent form. The ViziLite Plus screening will be done at the end of your appointment. You will be asked to rinse with a cleansing solution. Dr. Bishop will then examine your mouth using a specially designed light. If a suspicious lesion is detected, it will be marked with T-Blue, a blue dye, and documented. If something is detected Dr. Bishop will take the necessary steps to send you to a specialist. We are very excited about this new technology. We will be happy to answer any questions or concerns you may have about our new procedures.

“There’s one step in your dental visit you can’t live without: Oral Cancer Screening”

My heart pounded and I grabbed the chair in anticipation of what was to come next.

It’s Amazing What a Filling Can Do

Well it was that time again. Time for my six month cleaning. Now I have to admit a few months had went by since I reached my six month check-up. (Uh, like 12 months to be exact). Now before you start to think Dr. Bishop doesn’t take care of his staff let me tell you I am nervous about the dental chair. I know I work in a dental office but that’s why I work up front. I have been known to assist in fillings a few times but that is defiantly not like being treated yourself. So like I said it was time for my “six” month checkup. Of course since I waited to have my

teeth cleaned for so long I had developed a cavity. Now most of you think it’s bad enough to have a dentist work on you. You should try letting your boss and two of your co-workers treat you. Having them stand over you with sharp instruments makes you think back to everything you’ve done, hoping your didn’t say or do anything to make them mad. Anyway they began the treatment. The first step is to numb the patient up. I have to say Dr. Bishop does a great job with that because I never knew what he was doing until it was almost over. My heart pounded and

I grabbed the chair in anticipation of what was to come next. I waited for the pain I knew this would cause. I looked around with my eyes, answering questions as I could. (“Um Hum”) The next thing I knew Dr Bishop was raising my chair. It was over! It was over? I realized that fillings are not so bad. And my tooth that they treated isn’t sensitive anymore. The moral of the story: Don’t be afraid of a little treatment that makes you feel better. It might not be as bad as you think.

-Beth



Kids Korner

Unscramble all the jumbled words below. Present this to your hygienist for a special treat.

- SEIDTTN** _____
- TEWIH** _____
- SHRBU** _____
- OSHETTTPAOP** _____
- MGSU** _____
- ALEENM** _____

- VYATCI** _____
- LQEPAU** _____
- SSFOL** _____
- LEMSI** _____
- OTRO** _____

