



DIANA ALMY, D.D.S., M.S.

STRAIGHT TALK

Aug 16, 2006

In this Newsletter:

Health and Safety

By Courtney Payne

On Tuesday, August 8th we met with Beth Addington, CPR Instructor, to receive our certification. Every employee is now certified in CPR and able to help in choking situations. This certification is good for the next two years!



Phase 1 Interceptive Treatment for Young Patients

The American Association of Orthodontists, and many other worldwide orthodontic associations, recommends that a child have his or her first orthodontic examination by age seven, or earlier if there are obvious signs of an orthodontic problem.

Some examples of noticeable problems include chewing, biting or speech difficulties, finger or pacifier sucking habits that continue after six years of age, protruding front teeth, tooth spacing or crowding problems, baby teeth falling out too early, chronic mouth breathing, jaw joints that click or are painful, misplaced or extra teeth, a weak or prominent chin or other facial imbalance. Just because your child doesn't have any of these doesn't mean he has no orthodontic needs. There are many problems that can occur even though the front teeth look straight, while some of these noticeable conditions, which *look* intimidating and complex, will resolve on their own.



Side Note

Office Hours

Mon - 8:00-5:00

Tues - 9:30-6:30

Wed - 8:00-5:00

Thurs - 8:00-5:00

Fri - 8:00-12:00

If you have an emergency after office hours, please follow the instructions on...

(Full Article Below)

Phase I, also called interceptive treatment, will usually begin when your child still has most of her baby teeth and perhaps a few of the permanent front incisors. This usually occurs around age seven. The goal of interceptive treatment is to save space in the dental arches for permanent teeth and to help the upper and lower jaws relate to each other properly. Treatment may involve nothing more complex than a retainer, used to guide the existing teeth into the proper positions so that permanent teeth can come in properly, or it may involve removal of certain baby teeth to allow adequate space for permanent teeth. Interceptive treatment could also include a combination of orthodontic treatments. The methods and timing used will be determined by your child's specific orthodontic problem and unique personality.

Early orthodontic treatment takes advantage of a child's growth, using it to make a difficult problem into a manageable one. Waiting until the baby teeth have come out and permanent teeth have come in or until facial growth is nearly complete may make correction of some problems more difficult. Leaving some conditions untreated, such as a misalignment of the upper and lower jaws, could result in a discrepancy too severe for braces alone to treat.

However, not all bite abnormalities require early intervention. Many will resolve on their own or can wait until most of the permanent teeth have erupted. Only your orthodontist can determine which problems require immediate treatment, which would be better treated at a later date, and which can be left to nature. That's why it's so important that your child have an examination at an early age. That way, you have the option of beginning treatment when it will most benefit your child.

The important thing to remember is that the end result of early interceptive treatment will be a more stable orthodontic condition and an attractive, balanced profile. The advantage for your child is incalculable.

SUMMER VACATIONS

By Leslie Torrence

We are asking everyone, or at least those who are vacationing this summer, to send us a postcard from your vacation place! We want to hang them up on the wall so we can ALL enjoy the trips our patients take this summer. So please pack our address:



Frederickburg Orthodontics
10618 Spotsylvania Avenue
Fredericksburg, VA 22408

and when you get a little shopping time, pick out a postcard and mail it back to us! We'll have drawings for the prettiest, farthest, and funniest!

Community Involvement

By Leslie Torrence

We would like to thank Eleni Brown, Marianna Hilldrup, and the Wilkerson girls; Courtney, Kendall, and Riley for their contributions to the soldier's collection!! Kendall won the drawing for a \$20 gift card at Walmart however we have water bottles for Eleni, Marianna, Courtney, and Riley! Please remind us to give them to you when you arrive for your next appointment! Congratulations and thank you!



Starting in September, our next project includes YOU! Back to school is REALLY cool when you follow all the rules! Earn a raffle ticket for each of the rules you followed from one appointment to the next: 1. ON TIME for your appointment (let's go mom and dad!) 2. GOOD oral hygiene 3. NO broken brackets

You can earn up to 3 tickets per visit and place them in the box for our monthly prize drawing. If your ticket is chosen, you pick one of the following: Starbucks Gift Card, 2 Movie Gift Passes, or a Walmart Gift Card

One of our own!!

By Leslie Torrence

Did you read about Erica Esserman and her "Reel Love" with her father in the Saturday, July 22nd edition of Town and Country in the Free Lance-Star? She and her father love to share time on the water. Erica wrote quite an article to include; "Fishing is my dad's favorite thing." We hope you are having a great summer Erica, fishing with dad and catching some "big" ones!!



Office Hours

By Leslie Torrence

Mon - 8:00-5:00 Tues - 9:30-6:30 Wed - 8:00-5:00 Thurs - 8:00-5:00 Fri - 8:00-12:00

If you have an emergency after office hours, please follow the instructions on the voice mail to have the doctor paged.

Contact:

Email: info@fredbraces.com

Tel: (540) 898-7211

Website: <http://www.fredbraces.com>