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*Visit Designer Smiles
For a smile as Unique
as You Are*

FEBRUARY 2009

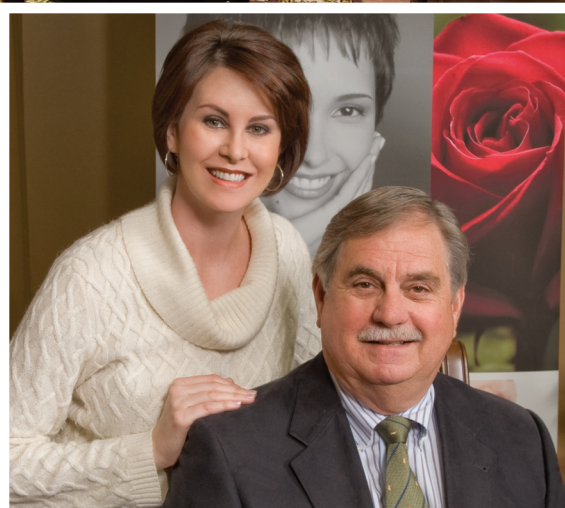
February is Dental Health Month!



Dental Implants Can Brighten Your Outlook As Much As They Brighten Your Smile

by tammy adams | photos by j. pamel photography

Visit Designer Smiles for a Smile as Unique as You Are



When Dr. Ann Fishel starts each day at her Clear Lake general and cosmetic dental practice, Designer Smiles, she is not thinking about how to maximize her time or how many patients she can manage to squeeze in that day. Instead, Dr. Fishel is driven by the philosophy taught to her by her most beloved mento, Dr. Marcus Haggard, her father and partner in the reputable practice.

“My dad taught me never to focus on trying to do the most dental work possible in a day but, instead, to focus on doing work that will stand the test of time,” said Dr. Fishel. “Because he has been in practice since 1968, I have actually seen patients that he worked on 30 years ago, and their dental work still looks great. It has truly stood the test of time.”

At Designer Smiles, patients do not wait long to see the dentist. “We are really not concerned with seeing a large volume of patients each day,” said Dr. Fishel. Therefore, Drs. Haggard and Fishel do not schedule patients in bulk or schedule multiple patients for one time slot, and a full hour is set aside for each preventive care appointment. “Your time is as valuable as ours,” said Dr. Fishel.

“With more than three decades of expertise, we’ve had plenty of time to perfect the patient experience,” added Dr. Haggard. “So you can be certain that every visit to our office will be a comfortable one.” From televisions in each treatment room to a fully-stocked refrigerator in the living room-like waiting area, patients feel at home and welcomed when they walk through the doors at Designer Smiles.

“We treat our patients like they are family, we know each of them by name and strive to make them feel special and cared for at every visit,” said Dr. Fishel.

Designer Smiles also stays current on the latest technologies that enhance patient comfort and improve patient care. From digital radiography (including a panoramic imaging machine) to the latest in teeth whitening and dental lasers, Drs. Haggard and Fishel are committed to offering their patients the best of the best. Together, they take more than 180 continuing education hours each year—a number that far exceeds the state-mandated 12 hours. “We complement each other very well professionally,” said Dr. Fishel. “He has 40 years of clinical experience, and I have an insatiable curiosity about the latest medical and dental technology.”



Can you tell which tooth is an implant?



WITH DENTAL IMPLANTS, FINALLY YOU CAN SMILE WITH CONFIDENCE

If you are missing one or more teeth, you are not alone. An estimated 20 million people in America suffer the physical and emotional effects of missing teeth. But there is a solution. Dental implants are one of the most important innovations in dentistry for replacing teeth and have become extremely popular because of their many benefits.

Traditional bridges and removable dentures don't compare to durable, natural-feeling dental implants, which are extremely strong and act much like real teeth. The patient benefits of dental implants are many.

Everyone Deserves a Second Chance to Have a Healthy Smile—Oral health and well-being are closely interrelated. Senior patients who are denture wearers often must modify their diets and give up foods they once loved because they cannot bite or chew certain foods with confidence while wearing dentures.

Dental Implants Restore Function, Health, and Confidence—Dental implants look, function, and feel like healthy, natural teeth. And dental implants have a 99 percent 10-year success rate. "They are as close to permanent dentistry as we can get at this time," said Dr. Fishel.

Dental Implants Preserve Healthy, Natural Teeth—Unlike crowns and bridges, dental implants do not require the alteration of adjacent natural, healthy teeth. Dental implants also prevent bone loss and the movement of natural, healthy teeth.


Dental Implants Provide Long-Term Cost Benefits—Due to the wide variety of dental implant treatment options and expanding dental insurance coverage, dental implants are a more realistic treatment option today than they once were.

Dental Implant Technology is State-of-the-Art—Dental implants have been used as a viable treatment option for more than 30 years. During the 1990s alone, the number of implant procedures performed tripled.

"Unlike other dental restorations, dental implants are not attached to tooth structure," explained Dr. Fishel. "A titanium post is integrated to the jaw bone, making it very secure. So, a dental implant, versus a crown, will never need another root canal, will never decay or become prone to periodontal (gum) disease."

Dr. Fishel wants denture wearers to know that dental implants can be used in partnership with dentures to bring stability and support to the dentures. Implant Supported Dentures give longtime denture wearers the freedom and confidence to eat foods they haven't been able to eat or chew in years!

"Having a solid chewing surface is extremely important in the senior population where nutrition is key to longevity and good health," said Dr. Fishel. "With implant-supported dentures, patients can bite an apple and chew a steak. It literally gives them the freedom and confidence to eat foods they haven't been able to eat or chew in years! Many of them tell us they feel like they finally got their lives back."

Why not call Designer Smiles today? From general dentistry to the very latest in cosmetic dentistry offerings, Designer Smiles can have you looking and feeling your best in no time! 

Designer Smiles

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Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., closed on Fridays

www.designerforsmiles.com

Invisalign Day at Designer Smiles
 clear "invisible" braces
 Tuesday, February 24
 FREE consultation with the \$500 off Invisalign treatment and teeth whitening. Capital One Financing Available
 Schedule now, appointments fill up quickly
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