



Tochi, the office mascot.

BIRCH STREET DENTAL NEWSLETTER

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A PLETHORA OF INFORMATION,
USEFUL AND NOT SO USEFUL...



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Written by:
Marti Soenen



Left to right: Dr. Hanna Cho,
Dr. Dan Soenen, Dr. Jake Soenen,
Dr. Leigha Brown,
Dr. Tiffany Valencia.

Our team of amazing Dr.'s!!

Christmas time!!

Isn't it Christmas time right after Halloween? I know that makes some of you cringe, but not me! Bring out the Christmas tree and lights! It's declared. Christmas is right around the corner, no denying it now.

One of my favorite fun facts about Christmas is the story of the original St Nicholas. St. Nicholas of Myra, as he was known. Born in 270 and died in 343 at 73 yrs old. One of the things he was known for was saving three young girls, being born into a poor family, from being forced into prostitution. Their father needed money for their dowries and so St. Nicholas of Myra dropped gold coins through their window for three nights so their father could pay their dowries. I love this story! How noble. Would that we all would have that heart. The pain he saved this family from the shame and immense pain of prostitution. Saving those girls from a life torn apart. That's why I love Christmas, it's the spirit of giving that we all need and endeavor to have.

I hope this finds you all well- life can be difficult but we hope you are finding some joy in each day. Sometimes we have to look for it, but there is joy to be found. One thing remains constant for me. God is good. I cannot deny it. His creation always amazes me. The beauty in



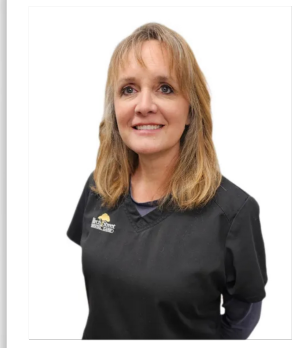
sunrises and sunsets, the precision of the stars, the moon that hangs there so faithfully every night and the sun who keeps keeps rising and setting everyday. Now, be sure, I'm not a chronically optimistic person. I have to fight some days to see the glass half full, but something good can be extracted out of each day. There's always something. So, I hope you have found joy along the way. The office is every changing it seems. If you come in and see a new face, you're not alone. Whenever I walk in there I find a new face that I've not seen before. A face you see less and less is Dr. Dan's. I cannot even keep up with what days he's working and what days he's not. Neither can anyone else. So if you're struggling with that you're not alone! He just turned 73 yrs old so

being more in the background as the younger generation takes over is a natural thing. He can't stop his desire to learn though. It seems almost monthly he's found a new seminar to attend- implants, sinus lifts, replacing bone for supporting that implant...the list goes on, and on and on... He loves the dentistry but just has to pick and choose how long of a day he can put in and how much work is crammed into that day. So he's there, when he's in town, one day a week or maybe two at the most. On his time off he feeds his love of dirt biking

out west in Colorado or Utah, or when the white fluffy stuff starts you'll find him on the ski slopes happily skiing as fast as he can. You cannot convince him to maybe slow down a little. Not on his radar. But to each his own. I know he'll be missed by those patients who have seen him over the years- change is hard! But upward and onward! Life is constantly changing! This is the week of thanksgiving and we want to pause and thank all of you who've been faithful followers for so many years. We still have some who have been with us from day 1! Amazing. 45 years is a big deal! Our plan is to just keep going! God willing.



More...news...



Two new positions for these two ladies. Haley (left) is our new Clinical Administrator, taking Debbie's place, and Debbie is now our Chief Financial Officer.

Ann (on right) is our new Clinical Team Leader, taking Haley's former position. So a little bit of musical chairs, but everyone is doing a great job!

We are SO happy to announce the return of some of our two favorite people! Kaylee and Janay! Kaylee left us for a little while to get her Dental Hygiene degree and she is now back in our office. Janay left us awhile to live afar off in Ohio but has moved back and enhancing our assistant staff once again. So welcome back ladies- you were terribly missed!! AND...Kaylee is bringing in a new life!! Baby is due in March!



Another happy announcement!!

Dr. Leigha Brown got hitched in October this year!! She's a beautiful bride and many best wishes to her and her hubby Nick!



For a number of years our office has participated in the Festival of Trees at Northland Mall. This year a big thanks to Jordan and Kayla for decorating our office tree!



Go ahead! Give us a google review!!

And all good things must change as time marches on.

Debbie has been with us from the first day we opened our doors June of 1980. Back on 104 Fourth street- our first tiny office! 3 chairs! A lifetime ago! Much water has passed under the bridge for this partnership. Hard to believe it's been that long! Debbie has



been one of the most faithful of employees, she is family. So even though she's officially "retired" she still takes care of the books and keeps the office

numbers running smoothly. I'm not sure we can make it all happen without her! But she is enjoying sleeping in a little for the first time in 45 years (!) And doing some traveling with husband Todd. We love you Debbie!

For more pictures and office happenings check us out on social media- Facebook and Instagram. Lots more there to share! And these newsletters are posted on our website: Birchstreetdental.com. Check it out!



Always remember... our office is a “no potty mouth zone!” It always surprises me how much the F word has become a verb, noun, adjective, superlative...

there’s a word you don’t hear often:

superlative. Dictionary definition:

“being more than is proper or normal; exaggerated in language or style.” So I was right. I wasn’t sure but the

F word certainly fills that definition! If you use it as an expletive toward any of our staff, Dr’s, assistants, hygienists, our front desk staff who is working to make you happy, or on the phone, or toward Tochi our office mascot... it will be grounds for dismissal. No exceptions. So park the potty mouth outside please.

We genuinely appreciate your cooperation in this- it makes for a much more pleasant day for all of us. I realize that those reading this are most likely not going to swear at our staff, but just in case you are...you’ve been duly warned. We love you, we want to serve you, but we do have boundaries. Good ones!



And... we’re adding onto the building yet again. If you’ve been to our office lately you will notice we have a big hole in the ground. We are adding on two surgical rooms, they are much needed. When we do I.V. sedation cases there is a lot more going on in those procedures and we simply need bigger rooms. So forgive our mess, noise and all else you might experience with this project. Many patients are opting for the conscious sedation that we offer to get you through the procedure more comfortably. You are sleepy but still breathing on your own and we can wake you up in a few seconds. It’s “the way to go” if you dread coming to the dentist like 99% of the world’s population. I’ve only had a couple people tell me in all my years in this business that they LOVE going to the dentist. It does not happen very often!!

As I’ve said, the office is ever changing. We now have a machine that will make your crown the same day. A “milling machine” it’s called, and we are in the first stages of using it. Success so far! But as with everything in this imperfect world, sometimes it’s going to have a glitch or two. But as our policy has always been, we aim to please. And the majority of the time we can have you happy when you walk out of our office. We do still ask for your patience, we are still human after all. Most days anyway.



Also please be patient as we work to get you into our schedule for your regular cleanings and check ups. What we’re finding is you’ve been so faithful in coming and we are still taking in new patients, it’s getting to be a very busy place! So our goal is to always get you in as quickly as possible, but sometimes there is a wait. We apologize! In a perfect world we would have you scheduled in a flash! But we don’t have a perfect world, yet we do the best we can.

(We do have a cancelation list so if your schedule is a little flexible ask to be put on that so we can get you in sooner. Seven hygienists to see thousands of patients- it takes a little time but we will do the best we can! And you may think “just hire more hygienists!” Our building is at a full capacity! I don’t think we can squeeze in one more staff member.

So trust us, we are doing our best to accommodate your needs! That’s always our goal!



Our fearless Hygiene team (missing one).

This halloween they all dressed as “The Spice Girls.” Spicy!!



More Halloween fun! Our clinical staff getting into the holiday spirit- fun costumes!



Recently Dr. Dan and the office leadership team traveled to Cincinnati, Ohio to visit a dental office we've known about for a number of years. They've wanted to visit it for some time and it finally happened! Similar in size and primarily a sedation practice, much was learned and the plan is always to implement what is learned. They braved our first snow storm, quite the exciting drive!



And our Christmas party fun! We have Christmas in November, December gets so busy with everything Christmas! Fun was had by all- a fun photo booth to capture the moment! Such a great group of ladies!



These two weren't at the party but Deke and Ruby wish you a *VERY Merry Christmas* and the *Happiest of New Year's!*