

# DDS DENTAL NEWS



## CURRENT EVENTS

### Oral Hygiene Tips

- Look at your toothbrush ... if it looks like an old mop with bristles going any which way ... please replace it. Bristles should be straight and firm.
- Always use a soft toothbrush. Medium and hard brushes are great to clean grout between the tiles, but not your teeth.
- It should take at least two minutes to thoroughly brush your teeth and remove the bacterial plaque. Most I-tunes last two minutes. It's a lot more fun brushing to music.
- Remember, your mouth is connected to the rest of your body, please take care of it.



**Dr. Steve Ellen** has retired from Southbury Dental Clinic after dedicating 30 years of serving DDS consumers and the department. He and his family have moved to St. Petersburg, Florida, where he became a dental professor teaching "Special Care Dentistry" to dental students. We wish him success in his new endeavor.

**Dr. Marie Faynor** has been a part time dentist in Southbury Dental Clinic for the last year. She will join the Southbury team full time. Welcome! We are very excited to have her on board full time!

**Hill Health Center** is building a community dental clinic on Elizabeth Street in Derby. It will have 6 dental chairs and will be able to accommodate DDS consumers for general dentistry. It has a parking garage next to the clinic, making it very accessible for DDS consumers. Their projected opening date is in late May of this year. Stay tuned!!

**March 5, 2008** The Task Force on Oral Health will hold an educational day on dental health for the older adult in the Concourse of the Legislative Office Building. The purpose of the day is to create awareness for the legislature and the general public on the importance of dental care and the need for accessible dental care for all. Our department will have a display with information on dental care for people with disabilities. It will take place from 9:00 A.M to 4 P.M.

in the LOB. This event is opened to the public and all are encouraged to attend. Please visit this informative event to show your support for this important cause.

**April 12-13, 2008** MOM is coming to Connecticut!!!! The Connecticut Mission of Mercy (CTMOM) is a large scale, portable dental clinic that provides free basic services to under-served areas. For the first time in the state, local dentists, dental hygienists and their support staff will screen and treat the most urgent dental needs. This may include a dental cleaning, a filling or an extraction.

**All services are free of charge.**

#### Clinic location:

The old Tolland High School,  
1 Falcon Way, Tolland, Connecticut.

#### Clinic hours:

Saturday, April 12, 5:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.  
Sunday, April 13, 5:00A.M. – 12:00 A.M.

Izabella Pulvermacher, Dental Coordinator, will be volunteering all day Saturday. If you know of anyone who is planning on going for services please let her know, so she can be a liaison between our department and the event coordinators. This is a new event, and it will be a new experience for all. For more details, please contact Izabella Pulvermacher at 860-418-6099 or by e-mail: [izabella.pulvermacher@ct.gov](mailto:izabella.pulvermacher@ct.gov).

## SHORT CUT TO UCONN *For New Patients*



If DDS consumers have never been to UCONN Health Center in Farmington, they will need an I.D. Number. UCONN calls it a T00 Number. This can be accomplished over the phone by a person who has access to the consumer's history and personal information. Please call 860-679-1660 to register.

Once the T00 number is acquired, the actual dental appointment may now be scheduled by calling 860-679-2325. This is the direct number to Dental Clinic 6. When scheduling this appointment, please let the receptionist know that the consumer has physical and/or intellectual disabilities and is from DDS. They are still confused about our department's name change. In the dental world DDS means Doctor of Dental Surgery. It is very important that they understand that you are scheduling for a DDS consumer. This assures that the consumer will be scheduled with a dental resident and not a dental student.

Once you have the appointment date, please let Izabella Pulvermacher know and she will provide you with the necessary paperwork, including the medical history and consent. Filling out the forms in advance will save time and aggravation during the appointment.

**Remember that DDS consumers do not have to go through the dental screening.**



*With our first publishing of the "DDS Dental News" I would like to share a quote with you by Eunice Kennedy Shriver, "As we embrace the new century, the leaders, lawmakers, healthcare providers and citizens of this country are wondering and worrying about the future of health. How do we – as a compassionate, caring, great nation—provide access to quality care for all Americans? Not simply those who are the easiest to treat. EVERYONE.*

*It is a sad fact that many dental professionals have shied away from treating patients with special needs. Too often, patients with disabilities have been perceived as someone else's problem. But "someone else" wasn't offering solutions either.*

*We want every citizen with special needs to have quality oral healthcare. Every time we help one person gain access to the care he or she needs and deserves, we are saying, 'you matter - to us and to our country.' Every time we forge a new partnership, share our ideas, volunteer or educate ourselves, we are making a difference. I believe that if we truly work together, we can achieve our health care goals."*

***One  
Person at a  
Time***