

ASSOCIATES in PERIODONTICS

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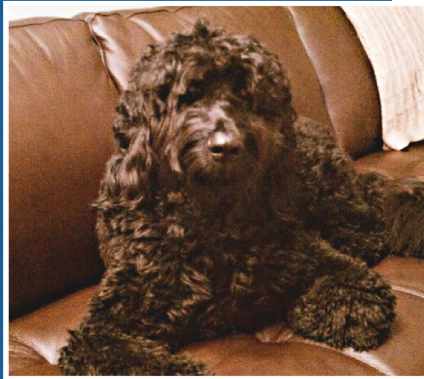
DOCTOR'S NOTES HOLIDAY GREETINGS & GOOD WISHES



Reflecting back on all that has occurred in 2011, both the good and the bad, we realize how very fortunate we are to be surrounded by people like you who truly care. Our entire team wishes you the very best for the coming year. We look forward to a fresh and exciting new start for 2012.

The holiday season reminds us how grateful we are for those we love and have loved and for the generous support of so many people. We will carry our gratitude into the New Year for the kindness and encouragement you have given us in 2011.

See you soon at 1775 Williston Rd.



Thunder

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

This month's staff spotlight shines on Helen.

Helen has been a dental hygienist at Associates in Periodontics for 27 years. She enjoys teaching patients how to properly take care of their mouths and maintain a healthy body. She describes her colleagues as fun, loving, dedicated people who truly care about their patients and each other. She notes, "My co-workers are true professionals."

When Helen's not at work, she keeps busy as the Treasurer for the Vermont National Guard Charitable Foundation. They raise money to help military members and their families. She's also the co-chairperson for the silent auction for the Travis Roy Foundation Wiffle-Ball Tournament, which raises money for individuals with spinal cord injuries. During the fall months, Helen and her husband remain busy maintaining their own apple orchard, Chapin Apple Orchard, in Essex, Vermont.



"Excellent quality care... I have been a patient since 1981 and I would highly recommend Associates in Periodontics. The genuine quality of personal care has remained consistent. This practice has stayed on the cutting edge with continuous improvement in periodontal practices, while upgrading equipment to stay abreast with advanced technology to provide the best dental care. They provide thorough, informative and proactive service."

★★★★ (Judy's Book review, Mary P., April 16, 2011)

RECALLING OUR FIRST THREE WEEKS OF RECOVERY

by Peter Harrington, RDH, Scheduler

The days of recovery from the Labor Day fire which destroyed our building continue apace. Slowly more of the practice is being drawn in to handle various pieces of the puzzle. Largely, our task consists of contacting the daunting number of patients whom we will have to postpone temporarily until our interim clinical space is ready. Stress runs high. But some compensation is of great help in our cadre's battle to maintain sanity. It manifests itself in two forms:

First, the physical setting: We are working out of the second floor den in the Boss's home, a wide, open room, with top to bottom windows facing a calming view. We catch a few moments breath watching the foliage change in front of the deep blue and steel grey backdrop of Lake Champlain and the Adirondack sky.

And then there is Thunder. No, not the rolling bass frequencies of Wagnerian boom that can accompany strong storms on the lake. Nor even the amusing vision of Irving's Dutch Dwarves rolling nine-pins along the Hudson River Valley. This Thunder is a black mop of curly hair that surrounds the most gentle framework of the Boss's Standard Labradoodle.

He is the epitome of a good host, graciously and quietly accepting a raft of boisterous strangers into his home. In doing so, he has never complained. For all of us, and especially for me as a "doggie person," Thunder is a panacea beyond worth.

He is ever attuned to the frustrations of the group, having that innate sense that tells him when we need his attention and affections. He soaks up anger and ennui in a coat softer than cashmere, and after a reassuring nose nibble, he looks at you with the largest, liquid brown eyes that let you know that he understands, empathizes, and if he only had thumbs, he'd be glad to do some of your job and take the weight off your shoulders.

I very easily fell into looking forward to seeing T-man (as I called him). The best part of my days were walking him out for pee breaks and romping with him in the backyard. Now we are in larger interim space, a move that by any standard would be counted as an improvement. But I miss my canine companion. Maybe we could hire him as a Therapy Consultant. All Power and Glory to The T-man! Thunder Rules!

