



ASSOCIATES IN PERIODONTICS

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DOCTOR'S NOTES



THE END IN SIGHT - BREAKING GROUND

By Brian D. Shuman, DMD

Many of you have asked if I will rebuild and move back to our Burlington location. The answer is YES. The design is beautiful, has controlled parking and will be constructed with green materials and techniques. The floor plan was designed by Dr. Kolesar and me to closely mimic our current clinical space so we will be able to move all of our new equipment and re-install it quickly and efficiently. We will be adding doors to the clinical rooms for less noise and more privacy per your suggestions. We expect to break ground soon. I anticipate moving day to be around the spring of 2013, and, I promise you, this will be our last move!

It was not an easy decision to take on the major project of rebuilding. It has been made more difficult since the completion of our very comfortable and efficient temporary space at 1775 Williston Road. But, we miss the downtown area, being within walking distance of Church Street and the community we have served for over 40 years. It is "home" to us.

Adding to our stress has been the insurance company's insisting that the old 247 Pearl location was 2000 square feet less than the Burlington tax records specify. They have also rejected a square footage determination from an independent survey done in 2007 by a Burlington architectural firm. That survey's square footage agreed with the city's calculations.



BRIAN D. SHUMAN, DMD

As a result of this impasse, I have decided the best plan of action is to take my chances with an impartial judge and proceed with binding arbitration. After 6 months of discussions (and "discussions" is putting it very kindly), we cannot agree to the square footage lost. I hope the judge will see things more clearly. The arbitration should be

over in three months and will finally end a chapter in my book that I would prefer to forget.

I want to thank all of you for your endless support, well wishes and wonderful reviews on Google and email. I cannot express enough how much your caring and kindness have meant to all of us at Associates in Periodontics.

Comments and suggestions are always welcome at Rebuilding247Pearl@gmail.com.

"PERIODONTICS WITH LOVE..."

Being English, I have met and used many dental services throughout 6 states and in 7 countries. Nowhere have I had better care. From the administration staff to the remarkably skillful surgery at every step of the way, the interaction has been superb. Even after their dramatic fire, the service continues to excel. I consider myself extremely fortunate to be a patient and consider the whole team as friends.

★★★★★ Philip W., April 20, 2012

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

This month's Staff Spotlight shines on Kim Couture.

Kim has been with Associates in Periodontics (AIP) for 12 years. Her role, as she describes it, is to be, an "ambassador between patients and the office. Mainly focusing on patients and advocating for them."



Kim's favorite things about working for AIP are the laughter and the great rapport she has with patients and colleagues. Kim believes her co-workers are the most dedicated, caring group of people she's ever had the pleasure of working with. She describes her patients as "kind and caring." "Our team goes the extra mile everyday for our patients. We love what we do and it shows!"

When Kim is not at work, she enjoys gardening and reading. She also helps out with her children's sporting teams and volunteers for her church.



A LITTLE BIT JADED by Kathy King

Lessons can be learned in various ways: personal, academic, professional. Or, in the aftermath of our Sept 2011 fire, from a 35 yr old Jade plant. This begs a little background information first. Originally native to South Africa, it was known as the friendship tree and the lucky plant. Travelers marveled at its fleshy, tear-shaped leaves, rich emerald color, and ease of propagation. It required low maintenance, benefited from the occasional pruning, while having an extremely long life-span. Its popularity as a houseplant grew as slips were carried worldwide. Dr. Levi acquired one, and it sat on a ledge in the back of our office for 35 years. With a little water and a lot of sun, it became the size of a medium shrub. Over the years, it became part of who we were. Welcoming, enduring, and lucky! Who would have thought it could have survived the fire. But there it sat, a little dry, a little singed, firmly holding on, removed from the debris by Dr. Shuman and nurtured back to life in his garage. With the re-birth of AIP, it is an apt analogy. Our office endured through adversity with the luck and tenacity of a Jade plant. We have our roots planted deeply into our community and have successfully survived; a little dry, a little singed, but now stronger and better than ever before.