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Top Gum Times: Winter 2016

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### In this issue

- [The AIP Family](#)
- [A Final Farewell to 247 Pearl](#)
- [Staff Spotlight](#)
- [Safety First](#)
- [Plastic in Your Toothpaste: I Donâ€™t Think So!](#)

### The AIP Family



- As you

may already know, Dr. Levi broke his elbow (see cool x-ray) in late 2015. I'm thrilled to announce that his recovery went well and he will be back in the office soon. Currently, he is in Europe lecturing, touring, and learning Spanish as a second language. He will resume his normal schedule of working most Fridays starting in May. Be sure to say "bienvenido de vuelta" (welcome home) next time you see him!

- Keep an eye on your inbox when your birthday comes around—the staff and I (with some expert video editing help from my 15 year old daughter, Meika) put together something special for you.

### A Final Farewell to 247 Pearl



It is with mixed emotions that I report, after five long years, the Saga of 247 Pearl Street is coming to its end. We'll celebrate 29 apartments (including 4 units designated as affordable housing) becoming much-needed homes for Burlington residents. The building opened just after Christmas and Redstone reports it is already 95% occupied. If you'd like to find out more, you can contact Redstone

at [802-658-7400](tel:802-658-7400).

A few have expressed surprise at the building's sheer size and even disappointment that it does not remotely reflect the stately Bailey-Hyde house. This was a surprise to me as well. Sadly, Burlington zoning regulations prevent a replica from being built on the site. Similar materials, no problem. Similar look, no way. Because the site has always been zoned for high density residential, this allowed for a larger building to help accommodate Burlington's dire need for additional housing.

The joy of being able to move forward from this tragedy with a fantastic new space, a wealth of wisdom gained from the trying experience, and such a supportive community, is undoubtedly twinged with sadness. The historic building, which existed richly for nearly two centuries, now lives on solely in memories, photos, and relics. A brick from the facade now sits on my desk, acting as a daily reminder of the hurdles life throws at you and our ability to survive and come out stronger. Though I do miss the history and spirit of our previous home, I'm thrilled to see the space once again doing what it's meant to do: contributing to the city and people of Burlington.

### Staff Spotlight

Shannon Keahy, the primary assistant in our Barre office, has been with AIP since May 2015. Before that, she worked as an LNA focusing on care for patients with dementia. Today, she works side by side with the doctors, hygienists, and front office staff in order to make sure each day runs smoothly. Working closely with people has always been important to Shannon; she loves that her job allows her to meet and work alongside so many inspiring individuals! During her free time, she enjoys volunteering, Latin dancing, drawing, baking, and traveling. Her lists of passions is long, but her greatest joy is spending time with her family and friends both in and outside the Barre office.

### Safety First

Years ago, as I watched the fire engulf my building, I remember finding comfort in knowing I had done the “right” thing by backing up all of my data to tape. Bummer—turned out my tape drive was no longer manufactured. No problem! I was diligent and as a secondary precaution had backed up everything to the Cloud. But my Cloud backup would take 5 days to get back to me. Too long. Finally, I tracked down my discontinued tape drive on EBAY and overnight had all my data fully restored. Never again. That night, I vowed to be up and running within one hour should another disaster strike.

I was reminded of all this after watching a [segment on Good Morning America](#) about the latest threat, Ransomware. In the spirit of transparency, and because I never want you to worry about a thing when it comes to AIP, I’d like to let you know how serious I am about protecting your personal information.

After the fire, I invested in [DDS Rescue](#) (the “high-tech spare tire for my server”), a state of the art backup system that encrypts and stores our server information on both coasts. It also allows me access to all of my programs and files remotely, and within 10 minutes of any emergency. I have run simulations. It works.

We also use [SendInc Encryption](#), a program that secures messages containing personal medical information by ensuring that data remains encrypted from the time it leaves AIP’s computer through the time you or your dentist receives it. You already knew we utilize cutting-edge technology in the office, but our advanced practices also extend beyond our walls to ensure that your information is safe all the way from our inbox to yours. If you haven’t already, you may receive email from us and note the SendInc logo. It will require a one time name and password registration to open.

In other words, your information is 100% safe and 100% backed up 100% of the time, giving us all peace-of-mind.

### Plastic in Your Toothpaste: I Donâ€™t Think So!



Environmentalists everywhere are applauding President Obama’s recent legislation to ban microbeads, and you know what? I am, too. Once lauded as an “exfoliant” for your teeth, polyethylene beads found their way into myriad toothpastes, and in turn, into our patients’ gums. Because polyethylene (the same

plastic used for grocery bags) doesn’t break down, having them lodged in your gums is a recipe for trouble. The beads become a potential breeding ground for bacteria, which can lead to all kinds of reasons you might come to us in pain: gingivitis, or infection. While I love seeing you, I don’t want to see you go through that.

So, I was thrilled to ring in the New Year with the news that polyethylene will finally be phased out. Businesses will be required to stop manufacturing toothpaste containing microbeads beginning on July 1, 2017. Until then, watch out for toothpastes that may be on sale. I urge you to toss your toothpaste if it contains polyethylene beads, and make the switch today.

- Kathy Boyle, retired employee but still an integral part of the AIP family, is currently recovering from a major (and successful!) cancer surgery. All of her nodes are now cancer-free. She’s a fighter and I hope you’ll keep her in your thoughts as she continues the battle.
- Amanda Kempainen, one of our recent summer dental assisting interns, got in touch with some great news. She’ll be attending Boston University Dental School next year! Congratulations, Amanda, we’re so proud of you.

### Quick Links

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